

THE JOURNAL

Friday, January 14, 2000 • 50 cents (tax included)

Sports Cougar wrestlers win pair of tournaments [C1]

Martin Snapp Tying up some loose ends from the 1900s [A8]



DIANE DELANY, Connie Millar and Paul Hodgkiss examine seeding samples at the U.S. Forest Service Research Station.

Forest research in the heart of the city

By James Carter

ALBANY — Hal Salwasser was as relaxed as an angler fishing in a High Sierra meadow and enjoying the sun. Yet during a recent interview, his surroundings were as sterile as a government office.

And for good reason. As Salwasser answered a barrage of questions, he sat behind a table in a conference room of the U.S. Forest Service. In spite of the barren walls around him, he was cheerful and down right friendly. This despite the fact that Salwasser is director of the Pacific Southwest Research Station of the U.S. Forest Service—an important

position in the Department of Agriculture.

The research center that Salwasser directs is tucked away behind the U.S. Department of Agriculture building in Albany. That edifice is the 1940s-era building surrounded by manicured green lawns planted firmly on the southwest side of Buchanan Street, just east of Interstate 80.

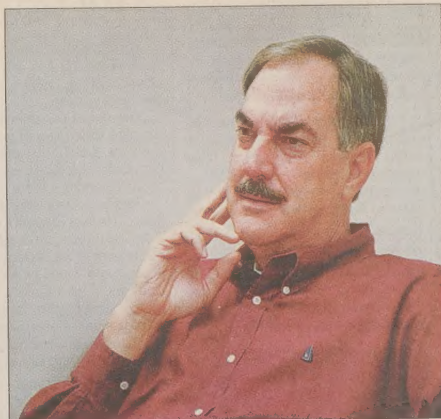
Scientists there study forests, how to fight wildfires, and a host of other issues all related to perpetuating good watershed conditions and maintaining the national forests. And there is ample need with close to 20 million acres of national

forest land in California, comprising one-fifth of the state.

"We do the research and technology support for national resource management," Salwasser said. "For example, the way people organize to fight fire is the result of research this station did in cooperation with the California Department of Forestry over the past 20 to 30 years."

Referring to the recent waves of wildfires that devastated portions of California, Salwasser said that historically, fires were sparked by lightning strikes in the forests. "In lower elevations, you'd have

See RESEARCH, Page A12



HAL SALWASSER discusses forestry research conducted at the station, which most of the public doesn't know exists.

JOANNA JHANDA

Center offers public services

The Forest Service Research Center in Albany provides a growing list of services to the public. Individuals and groups planning to camp in national forest lands may order maps from the center and pick them up there. Soon campfire permits for National Forest and Bureau of Land Management Land will also be available. Scientists from the Forest Service center are available to speak to schools or other public-oriented groups in the East Bay, a role they are already playing. Public affairs specialist Mary Hale says the center is anxious for the public to know more about the type of work done there.

The research center is located at 800 Buchanan St. in Albany, between the old middle school park and Interstate 80.

Details: Mary Hale, 559-6325.

To advise or not to advise is the question

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — Would a financial advisory committee help keep the city on the road to sound fiscal practices? The answer may depend on whether you believe the city needs more advisory bodies.

At last week's meeting, the Services for the 21st Century Committee of the Whole continued to discuss the possibility of recommending that the City Council empower such a financial advisory committee.

The voluntary group would advise the City Council on civic fiscal and budgetary

matters. The committee made no decision concerning the recommendation and should consider the matter again at its Jan. 19 meeting.

During the past few months, the committee has discussed the possibility of

See ADVISE, Page A9

Police make arrest in shooting incident

By James Carter

EL CERRITO—Police on Saturday arrested a Richmond teen-ager accused of firing shots during a playground dispute at Castro Park Jan. 7.

Two groups of adolescent boys faced off during an argument that ended when the young suspect shot a .38-caliber semi-automatic handgun. No one was hurt during the incident.

The teen-ager boy was arrested at his residence in the 500 block of Seventh Street in Richmond on Jan. 8 after police, armed with a warrant, searched his home. Authorities also seized merchandise thought to be stolen property, in-

cluding a rifle, according to a police report. Commander Scott Mosby said the teen-ager led detectives to a handgun stashed indoors, believed to be the weapon fired during the confrontation.

Young children were waiting for their parents to pick them up from the Castro Park Childcare Center last Friday when shots rang out at 5:15 p.m. The child-care center is located nearby the site of the confrontation.

"When I came around the corner to

See SHOOTING, Page A12

Judge dumps citations against displaced residents of Bulb

Judge accepts defense that sleep is a necessity

By James Carter

A Superior Court judge dismissed citations issued to seven former residents of the Albany landfill after issuing a ruling that may have an impact on cities that do not directly provide services to the homeless.

Charges against Ann Nadig, a homeless woman, and six others were dropped by the District Attorney's Office Jan. 11 after Judge Ronald Greenberg allowed Nadig's lawyer to use what is known as the "necessity defense."

The basis of the defense is that an individual can commit an allegedly illegal action if failing to do so would pose a "significant evil" and create a greater danger to the accused than violating the law.

"Before a city conducts sweeps against homeless individuals, or cites them for violations of local ordinances that prevent them from getting a night's sleep,

they better provide services rather than simply herd them into another jurisdiction," said Jon Sternberg, Nadig's attorney.

Nadig was cited for violating an Albany ordinance that, among other provisions, sets a 10 p.m. curfew at the Bulb. The statute, which also forbids camping, structures, and fires in several waterfront locations, was enacted into law June 15, 1999.

The Alameda County District Attorney's office initially moved that the "necessity defense" be disallowed in Nadig's case because she was cited for a curfew violation at the landfill and not for camping. However, Superior Court Judge Ronald Greenberg ruled against the motion, prompting the DA's recommendation that charges be dropped.

"My client was searching for a place

See DEFENSE, Page A12

EC High band hasn't confirmed it will march in Monday's King Day parade

By Kate Darby Rauch

EL CERRITO — Calling all marching bands: a last-minute act is urgently needed for the city's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day parade Monday.

Well, maybe. That's the message event planners are blaring to marching bands everywhere. They were originally counting on El Cerrito High School's band, but recently learned it may not make it.

Or the band wasn't sure it was supposed to, depending on whom you ask. "My parade marshal is out beating the bushes trying to find a band," Barbara Davis, chairwoman of the parade's organizing committee, said Monday.

Davis said she assumed the El Cerrito High School band was on board for the parade, a local event for the past decade, since planning with school officials about six months ago.

But when parade participants were called late last week to confirm details, the high school said it wouldn't be able to do it.

Davis said she was devastated. Last

KING PARADE

Parade assembly is at 10 a.m. at the El Cerrito office of the Department of Motor Vehicles, Kearney and Manila. The parade to the El Cerrito Community Center begins at 10:30 a.m. and a rally at the center, 7007 Moerser Lane begins at 11 a.m. with guest speaker Rev. Donnell Rickey Jones. The event will feature gospel choirs, dancers, tributes to Dr. King and more.

year, the El Cerrito High band didn't join the parade because planners didn't give it enough advance notice, she said. Because of this, Davis said she started talking with school officials in the summer for this year's march, including meeting with Principal Michael Aaronian in August.

Maybe this was too much notice. Aaronian said he wasn't under the impression the August conversations were

See PARADE, Page A12

The Journal has moved

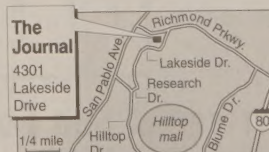
As of this week we've relocated our offices from Oakland to the West County Times building at 4301 Lakeside Drive (take the Richmond Parkway exit off Interstate 80) in Richmond. Our mailing address remains P.O. Box 1624, El Cerrito, 94530.

We also have new phone numbers:

Chris Treadway, editor, 243-3575
Peter Mentor, sports editor, 243-3577
James Carter, reporter, 243-3576
Marc Albert, reporter, 243-3578
J.R. Deaton, reporter, 243-3579

Our fax number remains the same, 644-1735.

If you have any questions or comments, e-mail the editor at cttreadway@cctimes.com



Here is our new location

INDEX

■ Calendar	Page C5
■ Crossword	Page C5
■ Martin Snapp	Page A8
■ Opinion	Page A5
■ School Watch	Page A4

WORTH CHECKING OUT

Authentic baroque

The Flauti Diversi early music ensemble performs Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, One Lawson Rd., in Kensington. A reception follows the concert, titled "Vir-fuoso Music for Woodwinds from the Court of Frederick the Great." The program features works by composers associated with the court: C.P.E. Bach, court composer and harpsichordist; J. J. Quantz, the King's flute teacher; and Telemann, Abel, Graupner, and Muthel. Performing on authentic period instruments—baroque flutes, bassoon, and clarinet, viola da gamba, recorders, harpsichord—the ensemble gives listeners a chance to hear baroque music as it sounded when composed and first played. Suggested donations: \$15 general, \$10 students/seniors. The Unitarian Universalist Church, has free parking and is wheelchair accessible. Information: 525-0302.

Blackberry Creek cleanup

Help Friends of Five Creeks and Urban Creeks Council prune and clean on Blackberry Creek at Thousand Oaks School Park, at the corner of Ensenada and Tacoma, at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 22. Bring work gloves and clippers if you have them. For information contact Friends of Five Creeks, 510-848-9358; 15creeks@aol.com.

Transportation planning

Voice your opinion on actions to achieve objectives in congestion alleviation, growth management, system maintenance, and alternative modes for West County on Thursday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. at Maple Hall, City of San Pablo, 13831 San Pablo Ave. (at Church Lane). Accessible by AC Transit routes 72, 72L, 76, 78, 376. Details: 215-3044. Copies of the Draft West County Action Plan may be obtained by calling 215-3035

WCUSD board meetings

As of this week the West Contra Costa Unified School District Board of Education will meet in the cafeteria of John F. Kennedy High, 4300 Cutting Blvd. in Richmond for all regularly scheduled board meetings. Public session begins at 7 p.m.

Soroptimists meeting

Soroptimists International of El Cerrito will meet on Jan. 18 at noon at Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, 7901 Cutting Blvd. in El Cerrito. Details: Barbara Lanier, president, 527-7070.

Teacher of year speaks

California's National State Teacher of the Year for 1999, Bill Pence, will be guest speaker at a joint PTA program to be held on Thursday, Jan. 20 at 7:30 pm at Portola Middle School Gymnasium, 1021 Navillier St. in El Cerrito. For more information contact Kensington PTA President, Terry Morioka, 510-271-7289. Pence is a Life Sciences Teacher at California High School in the San Ramon Unified School District. At California High since 1976, Pence has won



INTO THE LIGHT, paintings by Kenet, is the exhibit in the Albany Community Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave., through Feb. 24.

many teaching honors. In 1995 a Genentech program called Access Excellence named him one of 100 fellows picked nationally from over 9000 applicants. The following year, the National Science Teacher Association named Pence one of the country's top biology teachers. At that convention, he was honored as one of the top 100 math and science teachers in the nation by a program sponsored by the Tandy Corporation.

Magic Mike in Albany

The Buddy Club hosts local legend Magic Mike in its latest kids' show on Jan. 23 from 11 a.m. to noon at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Tickets: \$7 (under 2 free). Details: 652-7469.

Web site energy bill aid

Homeowners can save hundreds of dollars each year on their energy bills by using the Home Energy Saver Internet site at <http://HomeEnergySaver.lbl.gov>. The site was developed by the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory to help consumers determine how much energy their homes use. Based on questions and answers on the site, recommendations are given on how to make improvements. The site's "making it happen" section provides time-saving links to hundreds of Internet sites with practical, detailed information about energy-efficient homes, products, service providers, utility programs, and online reading materials. The site also provides e-mail access to energy experts who answer questions from users.

Rose pruning

Prune your roses right this year. Join rose expert Peter Klement from the staff of the University of California Botanical Garden to learn all the correct techniques you will need. You will actually practice rose pruning, so bring your clippers. Call 643-2755 to reserve a space at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 15, or Sat. Jan. 22, \$20 for members of the garden, \$27.50 for non-members. The garden is located in Berkeley, on Centennial Drive between Memorial Stadium and the Lawrence Hall of Science.

Kids dance program

Luna Kids Dance begins its winter session this month, offering creative, and modern dance and acting classes, and teen dance technique classes for ages 3 to 17 in Albany, El Cerrito and Oakland. Details: 530-4113.

East Bay Moms

East Bay Moms will host its second annual Preschool & Child Care Fair on Saturday, Jan. 22 from 10:2 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Center located at 1547 Lakeside Drive at Lake Merritt in Oakland. Parents will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from more than 30 preschools and child care programs located in Oakland, Berkeley, Albany, Kensington, Alameda, El Cerrito, and El Sobrante. Adult admission is \$2 for East Bay Moms members and \$3 for non-members and includes a directory of participating programs. Children are welcome and will be admitted free. Details: 653-7867 or visit their Web site at www.eastbaymoms.com.

IN BRIEF

AEF gives out grants

Over \$15,000 in mini-grants was distributed by the Albany Education Foundation in early December for 1999-2000 school year.

A total of 36 grants were given covering all grade levels, and every Albany school. The foundation distributes mini-grants to Albany Unified School District teachers to help defray the costs of classroom projects.

This year's mini-grants ranged from a \$85 grant for ecology mugs at Ocean View School to a full \$750 grant for adaptive swimming for physical education which will serve the entire district. The maximum amount that can be awarded under the mini-grant program is \$750.

A total of \$21,335.49 was requested by 38 applicants, with a total of \$15,940 being distributed. Thirty-six of the 38 requests were all funded at least in part, the only two applications that were not funded, had other sources of funding.

Grants for field trips were distributed earlier in the year. The mini-grants are intended for in class enrichment. The foundation was founded in 1995 to provide additional

resources to students in the Albany Unified School District.

In addition to mini-grants, the foundation gives field trip grants to teachers to help defray the cost of field trips, and has distributed block grants of up to \$5,000 for district wide programs.

An endowment fund to ensure long term support of Albany schools has also been established by the foundation.

Tax deductible contributions may be made to the Albany Education Foundation offices at 1320 Solano Avenue, Suite 102, Albany, CA 94706. Details: 524-7797.

Free bike helmets

Members of East Bay Regional Park District's Volunteer Bicycle Patrol will give free bicycle helmets to riders age 17 and under who do not already have a serviceable helmet, in a special event noon-3 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 15, at Point Pinole Regional Shoreline in Richmond.

The volunteers will ensure that each helmet has a proper fit. They will install free bicycle bells, make minor mechanical adjustments to bicycles, offer riding advice, and pro-

vide information about the parks.

The program is part of an ongoing effort to encourage safe bicycle riding. Helmets are being provided by the Contra Costa County Health Department.

To reach Point Pinole Regional shoreline, take the Hilltop Drive exit from Highway 80 in Richmond. Drive toward the bay on Hilltop Drive, turn right on San Pablo Avenue, left onto Richmond Parkway, right again on Giant Highway, then left into the park. Parking fee is \$3 per vehicle.

The bicycle helmet giveaway will take place a short distance past the entrance kiosk, at the bridge which leads across the railroad tracks into the main park.

State law requires all bicycle riders age 17 and under to wear safety helmets, and the practice is encouraged for older riders as well.

Park district regulations also require bicycle riders overtaking other trail users to either call out a warning or sound a device, such as a bell. Bicycle Patrol volunteers ride the regional trails in their spare time to provide information to park visitors, render assistance, report hazardous conditions, and radio for help in the event of emergencies.

Unwanted guest placed under ar

By K. Osborn

ALBANY — On the evening of Jan. 2 a resident on the 700 block of Adams Street reported that she was placing an intruder to her home under citizen's arrest and she wanted officers to come get him.

The resident told officers that when she returned home she discovered that an acquaintance had kicked in her front door and was sitting in her living room. He also appeared to be intoxicated.

The man was arrested for breaking and entering and for possession of marijuana.

He was cited and released when sober.

■ At about 4:45 p.m. on Jan. 3, officers responded to the Bank of America on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue on reports of two women who were attempting to pass stolen or counterfeit checks.

A 31-year-old Richmond woman was arrested and cited and released with a Notice to Appear.

■ On the evening of Jan. 3, a resident on the 1100 block of Dartmouth Street reported that the previous day vandals had cut the convertible top of her green Ford convertible and had scratched the paint.

There were no witnesses.

■ At about 2:15 a.m. on Jan. 5, officers observed a red 1986 Nissan Pulsar near Buchanan and Polk Streets that was driving erratically and then stopping.

According to reports, the driver then exited the vehicle displaying a very unsteady gait. Upon contact, officers found the 22-year-old El Sobrante man was very intoxicated.

He failed the field sobriety test and his breath score. He was ar-

rested and cited to be released when sober.

■ On the morning of Jan. 6, a resident on the 1000 block of Evelyn Avenue reported that during the night thieves stole his gold 1985 Toyota Camry from in front of his house.

There were no witnesses.

■ On the evening of Jan. 6, a resident on the 800 block of Stannage Avenue reported that during the previous night thieves stole the rear license plate off her 1996 Toyota Corolla.

There were no witnesses.

■ At about 1:30 a.m. on Jan. 7, the manager of the Shell Station on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that two male juveniles, about 17-18 years of age, wearing dark clothing, stole items and were last seen walking east on Marin Avenue.

They were gone when officers arrived.

■ At about 2:30 a.m. on Jan. 8, officers stopped a white 1996 Toyota pickup on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue for erratic driving.

The driver, a 27-year-old Berkeley man, was found to be intoxicated. He was also found to have an outstanding Albany warrant in the amount of \$2,000. He was arrested, cited and transported to the Santa Rita jail.

■ On the morning of Jan. 8, a resident on the 500 block of Pierce Street reported that during the night thieves stole her burgundy colored 1994 Chevrolet pickup. There were no witnesses.

■ On the afternoon of Jan. 8, officers stopped a red 1990 Mercury on Jackson Street near Washington Street for a vehicle code violation.

The driver, a 23-year-old Richmond man, was found to have a fail-

POLICE REP

ure to appear warrant both out of County, totaling \$4,700.

He was arrested at Santa Cruz to pick up.

■ At about 1 a.m. on Jan. 8, officers responded to a vehicle in the Gill Tract (University Housing). A blue 1990 Ford had collided with a tree.

The driver, a 19-year-old man, was found to be intoxicated and was arrested. Because the driver was in an accident, the driver was taken to a felony and was taken to a jail. The passenger, a man, was also intoxicated and refused medical attention.

He was arrested for being in a public place and was released when sober.

■ At about 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 8, officers stopped a white 1996 Toyota pickup on the 1100 block of Solano Avenue reported that he parked in the parking garage of an apartment building.

There were no witnesses. During the week of Jan. 8, towed six cars, responded to false alarms, attended to deceased animals, assisted people who were locked out of house or car, and responded to reports of barking dogs.

In the domestic arena, responded to 21 reports of disturbances and 95 Civil Assaults.

Albany officers stopped vehicles issuing 56 citations and warnings.

Albany firefighter/paramedics responded to four fire calls and medical emergencies.

Check shows suspected drunk driver also an unregistered sex offender

EL CERRITO — On the 500 block of Lexington Avenue Jan. 8, according to police reports, a 39-year-old man grabbed his son by the throat and held him against a wall two feet above the ground.

Police said the man, a parolee, then released the 16-year-old boy, who was injured as his back scrubbed against the stucco wall. Police said when he was finished with his son, the suspect turned on the youth's girlfriend, shoved her aside, then fled.

■ A 44-year-old man was arrested for driving under the influence at 2:12 a.m. Jan. 8. While he was being booked, police discovered the intoxicated man was a sex offender who lived in the area for three years without registering as dictated by law.

■ A crook smashed the wing window of an automobile parked on the 10700 block of San Pablo Avenue Jan. 8, and stole \$1,300 in tools.

■ Police and paramedics responded to an emergency call made from Freeview Hotel the evening where a 10-year-old boy from a severe asthma attack.

The boy was pronounced dead on arrival at Brookside Hospital.

■ Near mid-day Jan. 8, an opened the unlocked sliding door to a home located on the 6900 Wilson Way and ran away with a house, stealing VCRs, cash, money and suitcases.

County opposes Pinole emergency room closure

MARTINEZ — Contra Costa County supervisors took a stand Tuesday against closing Pinole's only hospital emergency room.

The Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a staff report that urges the state Board of Health Services to bar Doctors Medical Center from closing its emergency room at Pinole.

But Gary Sloan, chief executive officer of Doctors Medical Center — part Tenet HealthSystem — told the board that closure of the Doctors Pinole emergency room would be too harmful to residents of West County.

The state Health Services Department has final say on Tenet's request to shut down the hospital's emergency room but pays attention to the county's recommendations.

In November Tenet announced a county of plans to transfer emergency services, now at Pinoleter hospital in San Pablo to the new Sloan said the proposed shift would enhance services and result in a biosis at the two hospitals competing for the past 25 years.

Some residents at the meeting worry about going an extra mile for emergency care in San Pablo on one of the busiest stretches of Interstate 80.

Sloan also said he could not guarantee that the two hospitals will be into compliance with earthquake standards because he must work with the building landlords at San Pablo and Pinole hospitals.

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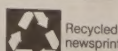
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Robert Garbisch retires from El Cerrito Fire Department

ays firefighting techniques may change, but rewards don't

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—In 33 years as a firefighter with the El Cerrito Fire Department, Robert W. Garbisch has seen his share of adventure. He has delivered six babies—one by cesarean section and another tried to come to the world with its umbilical cord around its neck. He has seen a roof beam fall and struck his head while he was fighting a house fire. He has fought numerous fires in El Cerrito too numerous to count, and has assisted fighting fires in the golden country and in Tilden Regional Park. He has fought a 1986 Safeway warehouse fire in Richmond and a 1991 Oakland-Berkeley hills firestorm. Garbisch, 54, retired this week. He called his last weekend, and he called his time in the department from 1967 to 2000, serving more than three decades under six chiefs. Firefighting equipment was heavy and less efficient in 1967, Garbisch said. The engines have changed. We have old Buffalo engine, which was

a carry-over from the war years" he said. "The engines have become bigger, faster. They carry more water."

He said the old engines had a hard time getting up some of the El Cerrito hills.

"If a fire occurred (in the city's higher elevations), we knew the second engine company coming up the hill would take a long time coming up the steep hill—Potrero, Stockton—the engines just couldn't travel that fast." The 1967 engines were the old traditional open cab style which meant the cabs were not enclosed and had no roof. At that time firefighters still rode the engine standing on the tailboard at the back of the truck.

"So if it was raining, you were getting wet in route," Garbisch said.

The fire hoses and nozzles are lighter in weight today and more varied and effective than in 1967, Garbisch said. The water pumps are computer-operated and more efficient.

"Before, everything was manually operated, you had to make your own power adjustments. Still, a lot is still controlled by the engineer," Garbisch said with a bit of nostalgia in his voice.

Most firefighting training back then was "on-the-job," he said. Firefighters did not know CPR and first aid as they do today. Garbisch estimates that 70 percent to 75 percent of the department's calls are medical calls.

"It wasn't that way when I started," he said.

He said actual fires account for about 10 percent to 12 percent of department calls. The rest are "miscellaneous" calls such as false alarms and "people stuck in cars," Garbisch said.

Most El Cerrito firefighters in 1967 were World War II and Korean War veterans. When air packs breathing apparatus started being used by firefighters in the late 1960s, Garbisch said the old-timers would call you a wimp if you used one.

"By the time you put that on, we'll have the fire out," the old-timers told the rookies. "We'd go in the fire and get our lungs full of smoke and you'd come out and blow your nose and this black soot would come out," Garbisch said. By 1976, the air packs were required equipment to be used by every El Cerrito firefighter while fighting a blaze.

Safety face shields were not used in 1967. Firefighters simply turned their helmets around and used the extended bill as a sort of face shield for protection.

Fire alarm pull boxes were on many street corners in 1967.

"Not every house had telephones back then," Garbisch said. Those types of street corner alarms resulted in many false alarms and were phased out in the late 1970s and early 1980s. "Every Friday and Saturday night, soon as the bar closed, one guy would go out and pull the box closest to the bar. That was something we could almost count on every Friday and Saturday night."

Over the years Garbisch has

served as acting captain and acting engineer as well as firefighter. He plans to stay busy after leaving the ECFD. Garbisch has his own business called Safety First in Vallejo that provides job-related on-site safety and first-aid training.

Garbisch also takes part in living history programs recreating historical battles and events, teaches CPR and does handyman and house painting work. And if that's not enough, he also makes models. One of his models, a small-scale depiction of the Roman Forum is on display at the Museum of Miniatures in Los Angeles.

Garbisch said he will miss the calls, especially the "medicals." When he talks of the six babies he has delivered in his 33 years in the ECFD, it's clear Garbisch knows he has done something important in the world.

When he was a young man, in 1963 and early 1964, Garbisch served in the Army as a small arms specialist advisor in Vietnam. One day he was "bracketed," as he called it, by enemy fire, meaning that soldiers to his right and left were shot. The soldier on his right was shot dead; the soldier on his left was shot and wounded.

Garbisch himself was wounded in his right arm and later sent home.

"When I was in Vietnam, I asked the dear Lord if he can get me home. I'd like to save lives rather than take lives," he said. Luckily for the people of El Cerrito, Garbisch fulfilled his battle-born promise in their Fire Department.



ROBERT AND LINDA GARBISCH

EL CERRITO BRIEFS

Give us shelter

City Manager Gary Pokorny re-issued a "full and frank session" last week at the West City Mayors' and Supervisors' Association meeting concerning the Costa Animal Services Department and its plans to consolidate its shelters.

The county has plans to consolidate two West County animal shelters—one in Martinez and one in El Cerrito—with the Pinole shelter being a "satellite" limited-operation facility.

Long-term animal care and housing would be in Martinez; dog licensing, animal surrender and other services would continue to be provided at the Pinole shelter.

In a letter addressed to city managers dated Jan. 5, Contra Costa County Administrator Phil Batchelder new state laws led the county to reexamine the need to operate two animal shelters that are about 16 miles apart. The proposed reduction in service at the Pinole facility has concerned West County and El Cerrito residents.

The City Council will consider the position on the matter at a study session at its Jan. 18 meeting. Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia and county Animal Services Director Michael Ross have been invited to attend the study session.

Hump in the road

ate last month, acting on requests from residents in the area, the city installed a new speed hump on Highway Avenue midway between Ashbury and Ashbury avenues.

This is the sixth speed hump installation since the city started the Hump Program in 1996.

Community Development Manager Gerald Raycraft said in a report to the City Council.

The process to get a speed hump installed on a street is more involved than one might think.

The initial request must originate from residents living on the block where the speed hump is proposed, Raycraft said. After that, the city's Maintenance and Engineering Department screens and evaluates the request, which also must be approved by the police and fire departments.

If the request meets the technical criteria, the requesting residents then must circulate a petition in the immediate area.

Sixty percent of the owners of parcels fronting the block where the speed hump is proposed must support it.

School sign daze

Some decades-old "no parking on school days" signs are causing concern. The signs were installed 35 to 45 years ago along King and Contra Costa drives, and prohibit parking 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on school days. There is also a white stripe painted near the edge of the route.

The signs and marking are intended to "create a safe walking area to school in areas where no sidewalks exist," Community Development Manager Gerald Raycraft said in a report to the City Council and city manager.

However, over the years many of the signs have deteriorated and can no longer be read. Others have become obstructed by vegetation.

"Police Department personnel state they could not cite a violator due to the conditions of the signs," Raycraft said in his report.

A resident of King Drive has asked the city to either replace and care for the signs if they still serve a

purpose, or remove them if they do not.

Raycraft has written Madera School Principal Robert Heller "to open a dialogue with the school community about the signs."

Raycraft said that if the signs do serve a useful purpose, the city should make them visible and readable.

"This may be a significant expense to the city since a large number of signs would have to be replaced as well as a number of poles," Raycraft said. "Conversely, if the signs and striping serve no useful purpose, they should be removed to clean up the environment in the area and simplify local parking."

Any change in parking regulations along King Drive would need to be approved by the City Council.

To reach the Editor
call 243-3575.

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City backs second multicultural celebration

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—The City Council unanimously voted this week to support the Second annual Sister Cities Parade and Multicultural Festival scheduled for this spring. Acting on a recommendation of the El Cerrito Human Relations Commission, the City Council approved the estimated \$1,200 it will cost in police overtime to oversee the event.

The parade and festival, organized by Celebrating Culture and Community, a local organization that promotes cultural awareness, takes place in El Cerrito and Richmond.

Last year, the parade began in Richmond and made its way to El Cerrito, where the festival was held. This year, the parade will begin in El Cerrito and wend its way to Richmond.

Dr. Eve Ma, president of Celebrating Culture and Community, said the

parade and festival is scheduled for May 21.

The parade will start at Portola Middle School in El Cerrito and make its way to Alvarado School on Carlson Boulevard in Richmond.

There were some questions about the event and its costs from the council. Councilwoman Gina Brusatori had questions about the event budget, how the \$1,200 amount was arrived at and how the parade and festival fit into the El Cerrito event and cultural calendar.

Brusatori suggested clarification from the Human Relations Commission concerning the Sister Cities Parade and Festival.

"What is it that they would like to do in the future regarding this parade?" she said. "I'd like to really

think about—have the Human Relations Commission among others think about—is this something we want to do, and if so, how do they want to be involved and at what time of the year do they want to have it?"

Police Chief Peter Sarna said the \$1,200 estimate is based on police costs for the event last year.

He noted that this year El Cerrito will not be responsible for policing the festival part of the event, since the festival will occur in Richmond.

Part of the parade, however, will take place in El Cerrito.

To reach the Sports Editor
call 243-3577.

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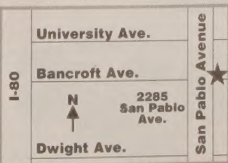
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Cleveland	\$74	Detroit	\$112
Philadelphia	\$113	Columbus	\$74
Boston	\$121	Raleigh/Durham	\$74
Houston	\$74	Denver	\$111
Atlanta	\$127	Charlotte	\$110
Tucson	\$75		

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Opinion

VIEWPOINT

Cluck, Cluck



RONNIE CAPLANE

Under Construction

"I took a message for you," my daughter called from downstairs as I walked to the house. She told me who it was from and that she'd written a number on a piece of paper for the phone. "I'm coming up." Do you want me to bring the chick's phone number up with me?

Chick? That chick? That 'chick' is a woman in her 30s, a mother, a volunteer, someone who's very active in our community," I was appalled.

I couldn't believe that Morgan would refer to any woman as a chick. It was so wrong, so inappropriate, so politically incorrect. This from my daughter who attends an all women's college, my daughter the feminist. My daughter, who, after being encumbered by a hyphenated last name for 16 years, decided to drop my husband's name and is now known as Morgan Caplane.

Where did this "chick" business come from?

"Chick" has been a disapproved terminology for women since the 1970s. It went out just as a four-letter word came in. Words that, by some standards, are far more offensive. But not to me and my fellow feminists. There are many names we'd rather be called than "chick."

I vividly remember when, where I was in high school, how "chick" was plucked from my vocabulary. I made the mistake of using it in front of another man, one who was more mature than I.

"Chick? As in chicken. As in brain?" she said, and then explained that calling a woman a chick was derogatory, insulting, a put-down. It was a term imposed on us by a male-dominated society. When I tried to defend myself claiming that it was just a word and that I didn't attach any meaning to it, she added, "You may think you don't, but language reflects our perceptions as well as our attitudes."

This, I thought, was very profound and I passed this pearl on to my daughter.

"Chick is kind of a middle ground," Morgan explained. She didn't sound the least bit defensive or embarrassed about her language. "Males can be boys, men or chicks. But for us it's either women or chicks unless you use chick."

"What about 'gals' or 'detties'?" I said, knowing these were not a whole lot better.

But that's how it went for us. One day we were chicks and the next day we were women. At first it was hard getting the word out of my mouth.

I took the phone number and called the chick back.

'Chick' was a term imposed on us by a male-dominated society.

It didn't sound natural. And I was never quite sure where the age of demarcation between a girl and woman was. That was another minefield. Calling a woman a girl could be explosive. So for me, all females became women, even a newborn baby was a woman-child.

Before my husband was my husband, he called me Chick. Fearing that this reflected his perceptions and that maybe he wasn't my Prince Charming, I challenged him on it.

"Not that kind of chick," he said quickly back peddling. "It's short for, uh, girlchick. You know, girlchick, boychick, like in Russian."

It worked for me and convinced me that Joe was a liberated man.

Is "chick" making a comeback? Or is this my comeuppance for having given up my career to stay home and raise my children? Have I failed as a role model?

When I grew up I didn't know any women doctors or lawyers or dentists or politicians. Women were teachers or nurses or secretaries, but mostly stay-at-home moms.

Now women professionals are accepted, even taken for granted. But getting there was a struggle, a fight, and one of the first beachheads was language.

Haven't we learned anything? Are we right back where we started? I thought my daughter would grow up in a different world than I had.

"Do you know what my generation of women went through so that your generation of women could be and do whatever they wanted and not be thought of as 'chicks'?" I said.

"And we appreciate it," she said. "Your generation did all that stuff so that my generation could call women chicks and not feel threatened by it."

Well, when she puts it that way, it sounds OK, almost honorable.

I took the phone number and called the chick back.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Praise for county supervisor

We believe that anyone who serves the public well should be praised. Therefore, we would like to express our appreciation for our Supervisor John Gioia. For the first time we can remember, West County's outstanding problems are being addressed. John came into office at a dead end and has never slowed down.

He has faced the problems of our development and traffic in El Sobrante, and for the first time the issue is being thoroughly studied. He has forced the county to act, somehow, — especially in West County — on the homeless issue that has been in limbo or worse for at least 10 years. He pushed the issue of needle exchange as an emergency measure.

These are just a few of the actions that have made us wish to thank him publicly.

Jean Siri
Susan Piathes
El Cerrito

A favorite part of the Plaza

I like doing my banking at Cal-Fed, my grocery shopping at Albertson's, clothes shopping at The Avenue, get jewelry at Beadazzled, my shoes fixed at the Shoe Doctor, fill my medical needs at Longs, get stamps and send packages at Mailboxes Etc.

But most of all I like the dry cleaning service I get from the Great American Cleaners. If this stops, I'm afraid I'll have to shop at Safeway and Walgreen's. I'm sure they won't mind.

Micki Lynn
El Sobrante

All classical hits, all the time

I was amused by Bill Mann's Friday, Dec. 10 column, "The New KDRC ... Rocks!" While I agree with him that, as a radio station, KDRC is a business, I have to disagree with him on programming.

The severe limiting of repertoire that happened when Lueth replaced McConnell, accompanied with an increase in commercial time, is not in the best interests of Bay Area music lovers. When I started listening to KSMO-KEAR in the 1950s, I wanted to hear only standard repertoire by Mozart and others at first, and I hated Stravinsky, Bartok, Schoenberg, and other modernists. I also did not care much for vocal music, including opera. In other words, I would have been an ideal listener for today's KDRC (except for the commercials).

But as I grew older, my tastes matured. In the early 1960s, KDRC was playing Bruckner symphonies on weekday mornings, works like Mahler's "Das Lied von der Erde" in the afternoon, and so forth. By that time, my tastes had matured enough to appreciate opera and 20th century music.

Then, as KDRC gradually got more conservative, I started listening to KPFA until they went basically all rock. Then I switched to KQED-FM, where, thanks to the innovative programming of Victor Ledin, I discovered such 20th century masters as Taktakashvili, Tabin and Schnittke. Now there is nothing but beginners' classics on Bay Area radio.

So while I agree that KDRC should serve as an "introducer" of great music to new audiences, it should not neglect those of us who want more than just the basics, as it currently is. It is a shame that, if Mr. Mann has been lis-

tening to "good music" for as long as he says he has, he has not grown any. Does he really want to hear the same old chestnuts over and over? How can he not listen to Schnittke's "Gogol Suite" and not be completely delighted? I'll tell you why. KDRC won't play it.

John P. Dahlquist

Variety the spice of listening

According to Bill Mann's "Media Notes" column, (KDRC Rocks" Dec. 10), Classical radio station KDRC and a number of other classical stations in the country are now owned by a large corporation, Bonneville Broadcasting, based in Utah.

These outlets play and replay musical selections from a decent but rather limited repertoire of about 2,000 pieces. The managers of KDRC and the sister stations are very proud of the financial success of their formula, and brag openly about it, which is their right.

Unfortunately, any listener or critic who criticizes the programming or who dares to propose that KDRC play some music from outside the magic list is labeled a snob.

Bill Lueth, KDRC's programming manager has said repeatedly: "We've lost 10,000 snobs and gained 150,000 new classical listeners." Bill Mann obviously likes this kind of rhetoric. Mann likes KDRC's music format, which is obviously his privilege. But, it is also clear from reading his column that anyone who disagrees with "him" is likewise considered a snob.

I think KDRC's dissatisfied listeners are not snobs. We just like good music of greater variety and scope than the station provides. Mann owes us all an apology.

Robert A. Maynard

Your letters are always welcome. You can send letters to P.O. Box 1624, El Cerrito, CA 94530; e-mail them to journal@cctimes.com; or fax them to 243-3574.

Letters are subject to editing and must contain a phone number for verification.

Student gets uneasy welcome to world of the interview

With trembling hands and a nauseous stomach, I gaze at the building looming over me. I compare the address the intimidating facade to the in my hands. I half hope that I made a mistake and am in the wrong place. But just my luck, numbers match perfectly. There is no turning back now. Clutching my portfolio to my chest as if my life depended on it, I push the up button on the elevator. I wait for the doors to open, I am longing at the busy streets of city. I want to be anywhere but here I am going. Like so many before me, I am on my way to my first college interview.

I ride up to the 10th floor must

only take a few seconds, but at the moment it feels like minutes. As soon as the doors open, I know something is wrong. Dead silence greets me. The entire lobby is deserted.

I check my watch. 12:10 p.m. My interview is at 1 p.m. It is Saturday, isn't it? I check my letter again to make sure I have the correct address. Yes, I am in the right place.

I sit down in a chair to wait. Five minutes drag by. Then 10. Just as I am about to get up and make a run for it, I hear two voices float down the ghostly hallway. Someone is getting interviewed.

Reassured that I am indeed in the correct location, I take out a book and pretend to read. But as bits and pieces of the interviewer's questions

seep into my consciousness, I imagine the horror of my imminent interview. I am convinced that my tongue will trip me up and that I will turn into a bumbling idiot.

A stutter will escape my giving incoherent answers. It has happened before when my nerves get the best of me. I pray that today will be an exception.

Just then a middle-aged man in a purple tie pokes his head out of an office.

"Have you been helped?" he asks. He looks at me curiously, and I know I'm definitely in the wrong place.

From this moment on, the day goes from horrible to horrendous. I

learn that I missed the sign telling me to register on the sixth floor. The nightmare has officially begun.

Now on the correct floor with about 12 other collegiate hopefuls, I still have 20 minutes to kill before my version of Judgment Day. I glance over the brochures that have cluttered my mailbox since taking the SAT my junior year. What I see in one of the pamphlets almost makes me faint.

"In 1998-99, approximately 15,400 students applied for 1,900 places in the freshman class."

Never one to like numbers, I now loathe math more than ever. The finality of the pamphlet's statement leaves little room for people like me. With my mediocre SAT scores, I

am reminded that I'm a long shot at best. I scan the room and realize that according to these statistics, probably only one of the 12 high school seniors assembled in that room will be admitted to this university.

As I wait to be called, I strike up a conversation with the girl behind me. She grasps a book of original compositions in her hands just like how I cling to the notebook in mine.

I am not surprised to find out that she is applying to the school of music. We wait for our turn and trade application horror stories. I whisper to the composer girl that I feel like I'm waiting for an execution. I don't say whose, but she laughs. She understands that I mean my own.

Objects in mirror are closer than they appear

By Amy Chen

An hour of torture finally concludes. I think I'm still breathing, but sometimes it's hard to tell. One day I know I'll look back and laugh at everything that went wrong on my first college interview. For now, I just wish it was my last.

Amy Chen is editor of The Cougar, the Albany High School newspaper.

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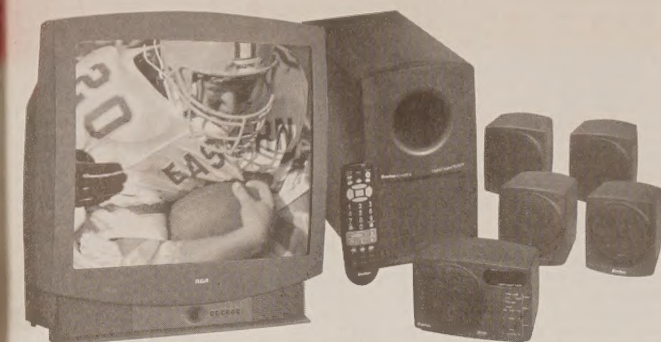
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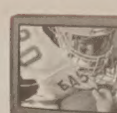


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Tying up some loose ends from those retro 1900

I had to happen. Frances Khouri of El Cerrito said something that her 12-year-old daughter Julie considered hopelessly unhip (or uncool, or whatever kids say nowadays), and Julie retorted, "Oh Mom, that's so 20th century!"

And Oakland's Cathy Lesser overheard her son Isaac saying to a friend, "Back in the 1990s ..."

The moral, I suppose, is that even if we're not ready for the 21st century, our children are.

Meanwhile, Jeff Johnson of Berkeley noticed a chronological landmark that the rest of us overlooked.

"In the avalanche of hype about the end of the year/century/millennium, nobody noted the passing of the decade!" he says. "No retrospectives of the 1990s or predictions for the '00s. I think it's a fitting end for a shallow, forgettable decade. It's been forgotten already! The final insult to a brain-dead age."

Which brings us to the question of what we ought to call this new decade. The Zeros? The Zips? The Nothings? The Aughts?

"I think we should call it 'the Oughts,'" says Pam Myers of Albany, "because everyone seems to feel it's their business to tell everyone else what they ought to do."

Three cheers for El Cerrito! I just got a note from Vera Shadi, daughter of our beloved Sundar Shadi, and she says you folks responded in record numbers to my



MARTIN SNAPP

Snapp Shots

Sarah Cahill is giving an all-too-rare local concert Jan. 24, as part of the Music Masters concert series playing throughout this month at the beautiful Julia Morgan Theater.

appeal to send Christmas cards to her dad.

"One day when he innocently opened his mailbox he found a deluge of cards!" she writes. "The next day, the same thing! A special thank you to the nearly 100 people who responded, making a lonely old man feel that what he had done was worthwhile and had 'made a difference' in some people's lives."

In a similar vein, Joseph Charles, the Berkeley Waving Man, asked me to thank all the people who serenaded him with Christmas carols outside his living room

window last month.

"Tell everyone to keep smiling," he says. "And have a good day!"

While we're handing out kudos, let's hear it for the U.S. Postal Service. I was sent a package via UPS from the East Coast last week, but the shipper got a few details wrong; namely, my name, my street address, and the name of my street! Naturally, UPS was unable to deliver it.

So UPS sent me a post card to that effect, once again, to the wrong name, wrong number and the wrong street. But the Postal Service in the person of David Grandison, my letter carrier, managed to find me and deliver the card anyway! As the old saying goes, neither rain nor sleet nor snow ...

Speaking of the mail, I'm getting a ton of letters about the outstanding-people-of-the-20th-century stories I wrote for this paper last month.

(Actually, I wrote separate articles for the Voice, The Journal and the Montclairian. If you'd like to see who I wrote about in the other two papers, send me an email and I'll send you a copy.)

A lot of readers wanted to know who selected the people to be profiled (answer: me) and how the selection was made (answer: by the seat of my pants).

But mostly, they wanted to know why I didn't include Jack London in my list of outstanding Oaklanders. Answer: It was strictly personal. The more research I did

about him, the more I couldn't stand him. He was a racist and proto-fascist who beat his wife and treated his servants like dirt. (His valet had a private name for him: Mr. God.) I finally said to myself, "I'll be darned if I give this so-and-so any more publicity!"

Besides, I never did like "The Call of the Wild."

As long as I'm dishing out criticism, here's a heaping plateful of crow for me, for making such a dumb mistake in my profile of Ron Dellums. I said that when he was elected to the Berkeley City Council in 1967, "The council in was firmly in the hands of the conservatives—there were no women on the council in these days."

Not so, says Mary Tolman Kent, and she ought to know. "My late husband, Jack Kent, a liberal Democrat, was re-elected in 1961 along with Bernice May (a woman and also a liberal Democrat), and two more liberal Democrats, Zack Brown and Wilmont Sweeney, creating the first liberal City Council ever," she writes.

"And in 1965, two years before Dellums ran for council, Margaret Gordon, also a liberal Democrat, was elected, creating a 6-to-3 liberal majority."

Oops! Looks like the only thing I got right was spelling his name correctly.

I also goofed when I wrote that Louis Stein donated his treasure trove of local historical materials to the El Cerrito Historical Society.

Actually, he donated them to the Contra Costa Historical Society.

But my boo-boos aside, writing these profiles was a chance to spend some time in the company of some truly admirable people who, alas, are no longer with us. We are fortunate to have had such great forebears; here's hoping we live up to their legacy.

We are also lucky to have people among us who are working hard to keep our collective memories alive. People like Verne Odlin of the El Cerrito Historical Society, Linda Rosen of the Berkeley Historical Society, Anthony Bruce of the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Alliance, Janet Hildebrand of the El Cerrito Library, Ronnie Davis and Helen Anderson of the Albany Library, Alan Bern of the Berkeley Library and, especially, Bill Sturm of the Oakland Library's Oakland History Room. These folks are civic treasures, and we are all in their debt.

I'm also indebted to some other folks who helped me, including Geoff Hayes and Andy Salonen of the Berkeley Tennis Club, Bria Moran of Chez Panisse, Lt. Doug Hambleton of the Berkeley Police Dept. and pianist Sarah Cahill.

Speaking of Cahill, she is giving an all-too-rare local concert Jan. 24, as part of the Music Masters concert series playing throughout this month at the beautiful Julia Morgan Theater.

Cahill is a classically trained pianist who can play a Bach or a Beethoven sonata with the best of them.

But she has made it her mission to perform experimental works by modern composers, and audiences demand to hear the same old familiar chestnuts, and over again, like a cutie McDonald's who expects to be served the same Big Mac every time.

She'll perform "Red Measured" the New Zealand composer, and Lockwood, which, among other things, requires her to rub ping pong balls on the strings of a piano. "But they have to be new pingpong balls," she explains. (Apparently, using pingpong balls that certain je ne sais qui

She'll also perform "To Sounded At The Sea"—the line from Yeats—by Lois V. which requires her to pick up and strings with guitar picks, as well as "Fragments of the Evening" by the noted American composer Jeffrey Ford, who will be flying out of Washington, D.C., for the event.

The date: Monday, Jan. 24, 7:30 p.m. Be there or be sorry.

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-9039; write him c/o Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Road, Oakland, CA 94619; or e-mail him catman@california.com.

Pacifica slips out of Berkeley after dark

By David Ferris

The Pacifica Foundation has cleared out of its headquarters next door to radio station KPFA in preparation for a permanent move to Washington, D.C.

Pacifica, the parent of KPFA, announced in a press release last week that it would reopen its headquarters in Washington on Jan. 18. Such a move has been rumored since last summer, when Pacifica came under a firestorm of criticism from KPFA staff and supporters.

Pacifica, which owns five radio stations and supplies programming to dozens more, is moving to be closer to the hub of national decision-making, the release says.

The move followed plans Pacifica announced when it decided to reopen KPFA after a three-week station lockout that galvanized leftists throughout Northern California.

At the time, though, Pacifica officials had said they would move the headquarters within a few weeks.

"The move allows the national staff easier access to agencies and public interest organizations headquartered in the nation's capital," Thursday's press release said.

But a KPFA staff member said the move was designed to distance the embattled umbrella group from its hostile environment in Berkeley.

"It's really clear they decided to turn tail and run because of the heat they got from the Northern California community," said Aileen Alfandary, news co-director for KPFA.

Pacifica Executive Director Lynn Chadwick said the move has nothing to do with the recent troubles.

"It's been a strategy considered inside the organization for some time, even before the summer," said Chadwick.

Chadwick, who was rebuked by station staffers, is the only one of Pacifica's six national staff members who will move to Washington. The others have been let go after choosing not to move, Chadwick said.

Tomas Moran, a KPFA sympathizer appointed from the Bay Area to the Pacifica board in October, said he was disappointed the foundation went ahead with its plans to move away.

"I was hoping that it was a decision that had been made in the heat of the crisis," Moran said. "Moving the headquarters when KPFA is in crisis ... this is not a good time, in the middle of the uncertainty."

Alfandary and Moran agreed that the move sheds little light on the future of the nation's oldest listener-supported station. Many KPFA supporters worry it might be sold, though Pacifica officials have said there are no plans to sell its flagship station.

The contents of Pacifica's office on Martin Luther King Jr. Way were emptied into a moving van after 6 p.m. on Jan. 5.

Alfandary said Pacifica was "slinking away in the dark of night."

But Chadwick said the move was made after-hours to help the movers avoid traffic. "It's pretty normal with lots of businesses to move at night," she said.

The move concludes a 50-year run by Pacifica in Berkeley, as well as a

year of strife between the station and the foundation. The conflict began in March when Pacifica fired station manager Nicole Sawaya. In June, a show host was fired for mentioning her termination on the air.

Tensions mounted until Pacifica locked the station down July 13, prompting mass protests by hundreds of KPFA loyalists. Pacifica officials ceded programming to KPFA staff Aug. 5, but insisted the foundation would take corrective action if ratings do not improve.

Staffers have accused Pacifica of endangering the station's mission

with efforts to seek commercial sponsors for the first time. Pacifica said programming changes may be necessary to broaden listenership at a station with a strong signal but weak ratings.

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Golden 10 Piece Brass
Gabrieli Brass perform selections from Pachelbel's Canon to Sturdust. Dinner at 6:45 Show at 8:00 pm

Tue 18

Prolific Pianist
Englishman Antony Peebles has performed in an astonishing 119 different countries around the globe. He will perform



selected pieces by Schubert, Beethoven, Scott Joplin, Rachmaninoff, Debussy, and Frederick Loewe. 7:30 pm

Thu 20

Virtuoso Classical Guitar
This is Niall Fordyce's last performance in the Bay Area before departing for broader musical horizons. He will play a collection of pieces by various Latin composers, plus at least one original composition, on a guitar built by his father. 7:30 pm



Fri 21*

Masters of Music Gala Extravaganza
Piano Solo Opera & more. World famous pianist Gwen Mok leads a group performing a variety of instrumental and vocal pieces by composers such as Strauss, Beethoven, Ravel, and Gershwin. Dinner at 6:30 - event at 8:00 pm



Sat 22

The Del Sol String Quartet, formed in 1992, has performed throughout the western U.S. and Canada. This event will feature the music of Lutoslawski, Piazzolla, and Brahms. 8:00 pm



Sat 29

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Research

FROM PAGE A1

every three to seven years, and middle altitude regions every 20 years," he said. "The highest elevations every couple of hundred years."

The wildlife ecologist said the elevations of the Sierras did tend to have what are known as "wild fires"—the kind of really catastrophic fires that literally destroy everything. Generally, such conflagrations were rare because of the frequency of fires back then, which tended to primarily burn the undergrowth.

But in the early part of this century, people thought that fires were bad and developed techniques to put them out. And we just let the forests burn. They managed forests with selective harvests, where they would cut and take the real prize trees—pines and ponderosa pines. What they were doing was treating them like a more shade tolerant, like the fir," he said.

So you have these beautiful, fully developed forests up in the Sierra now where nothing like what they were really, and they are incredibly variable said white firs only live 100 years or so, which results in a forest that is stressed by fire, attacked by insects and varrologues. During a dry year, there are multiple lightning strikes, there are so many wild fires firefighters are overwhelmed.

So you get a fire year like last year where almost a million acres burned in California," Salwasser said.

They cut the best trees back sugar pines that were six, seven in diameter, big ponderosa—some of the best soft woods in the world."

An effort to return forests to

their natural condition and prevent cataclysmic fires, federal and state agencies have employed what are called prescribed managed fires.

"There's an ecological advantage (to prescribed managed fires) in that they rejuvenate the vegetation and the wildlife, both of which evolved with frequent fires," Salwasser said. Such controlled fires allow the forest structures to develop as they would under natural conditions.

Insects inside

An area of research now being conducted at the station involves insect ecology—the chemical ecology of insects and the understanding of the role of sex attractant chemicals called pheromones.

Sex pheromones are chemicals insects use to attract the opposite sex. According to Salwasser, scientists developed an understanding of how these pheromones work with various species of insects. They are now used to repel insects from trees forest managers don't want attacked, and to pull them into other areas so pesticides aren't necessary.

"It's a more biologically-friendly way to manage insect outbreaks," the director said. "In fact when Torrey pines in San Diego County were being attacked by a beetle, our lead scientist went down there with his bag of pheromones, applied them to some other trees, and pulled them out of the Torrey Pines."

Other fascinating work done by the research center involves conditions in forests that, on the surface, might not appear to be of particular significance.

Salwasser pointed to one example.

"There are lots of different wildlife attracted to dead trees in the forests—they call these trees 'snags.' Animals attracted to snags include woodpeckers and salamanders, to name just two.

"We used to cut all the snags down because they were considered safety hazards. But it got to the point

where forests didn't have an acceptable supply of standing dead trees."

Which begs the question: If a dead tree fell in a forest and no one was there to hear it, would it make the forest sound?

The answer is yes. Dead trees play an important role in maintaining the health of forests.

Though scientists have understood their role for many years, in an effort to provide snags, forest managers in the past tried to create them by blowing off the top of a tree with dynamite.

"It was dangerous and didn't work very well," Salwasser said. "It turns out that trees which die naturally, and have an insect attack, end up lasting longer and being better for forest wildlife than trees that are killed." Knowing this, Salwasser said scientists developed technology to pull insects into trees they want to kill to make snags. Consequently, they are primed for woodpeckers and other critters. "It's just amazing," he said.

Some trees might have deformities that forest managers don't want contributing to the gene pool. "But such trees might have some great places for raccoons or spotted owls to nest," the research director said. "After they are transformed into snags."

"So after a few decades, you want these snags to fall over and take another hundred years to slowly rot into the forest floor. As they lay there in the forest, they play a whole other range and sequence of functions—they get termites, and bears paw through them and eat the termites. Salamanders grow underneath them. When the snow falls, the snags provide an open air pocket and runways beside them, used by mice and weasels. So, you see, dead trees play an important role in the forest ecosystem."

Salwasser's face lit up at the thought. He was basking in the sun like a fisherman again, though confined in a government conference room in the dead of winter.

School

FROM PAGE A4

even though my parents wanted the best for all of their five children they did not quite know how to get us the information we would need to access these opportunities. So they did what they could and drew on their own experiences and that of other family members.

Some of my friends seemed to know what they wanted to be but I did not have a clue. I thought I would like to fight fires at one time, until I saw a real one. Then I thought I would make a good policeman, but never really met or saw a woman in those jobs back then. I had also had friends who wanted me to just hang out with them, but that road had no hope.

All I really knew was that I wanted some adventure in what I did. I never knew that I could go to college and no one ever told me that college was something I could reach for, in spite of the fact that I did pretty well in most of my subjects. At the end of my high school years, I thought that I only had two real choices in life: one was to marry early and have kids and grand kids, and the other was to enter a convent.

So, at 18, I entered a convent—only because I knew that I didn't want to marry anyone yet and because, since no one in my family had gone to a convent, and no one knew what to expect, I thought it might have some adventures.

In the convent they placed me in a teacher-training program and I became a teacher, a career I have always enjoyed. But I wasn't a very good nun. I couldn't quite keep all the rules and keep quiet so long, and I probably asked too many questions.

At 25, I left the convent and went off to teach and did so for many happy years. In several schools, I was in charge of the chorus and that was great fun and where I learned my fourth lesson:

Lesson 4: Try to have fun in what you are doing

I especially loved breaking up the singing groups into several parts and having them compete with each other.

I left teaching to work at the university and have been here for 26 years changing jobs nearly every five years or whenever I want to make the change. And it was here that I came upon my fifth lesson:

Lesson 5: Keep learning

I have learned through my journey that the important thing is to keep learning. Go for the skills that you want to have and very soon you will find yourself before a diverging path. Oftentimes we will want to take both paths, but Frost hints in his poem that it may not be possible:

"And both (roads) that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.

Oh, I kept the first for another day!

Yet knowing how way leads on to way,

I doubted if I should ever come back."

Sometimes when we make our choices we may not come back to where we started. I did a study once of people and their careers at

the university and found out that most people thought they got to their current career because of one thing: Can you guess what that was? Luck.

It may be true, that luck is important, but I think when we plan a little and get some new skills we are often in a better place to take advantage of that luck when it shines and we may even cause it to shine. For example, 10 years ago, I thought I would like to learn how to resolve conflicts because they seem to be such a big part of living and a useful skill to have for the office and for the home. No sooner had I finished my two courses than a job appeared on the campus requiring conflict resolution skills and I was suddenly the only one ready to take real advantage of the opportunity. I got the job.

So, Lesson 6 is: Get yourself ready for luck

A road map helps a lot even if you don't always follow it. Some students have a clear road map. They know what they want to be and they know how to get there. Usually a parent or some family member has helped them focus and plan. Do any of you know what you want to be? What do you want to be? How will you get there? Can you think of any obstacles that will get in your way?

Most of us are not so clear. How many of you do not know what you wish to be? How many know what you might want to be but don't know how to get there? How many of you wish you could go to college? How many of you know for sure that you are going to go to college? How many of you will need help getting to college?

Last year, your school district (WCCUSD) launched a college fair to help many of its seniors get into college. On Tuesday night, I met a student who told me how grateful he was to have that chance to get into a college. No one had encouraged him or guided him. His test scores were not outstanding and his grades were weak.

And he told me with glistening eyes, that he had wished he had started early to prepare for college because he would have had so many more options and colleges to choose from and more opportunities for scholarships. I told him I wish we had been able to help him earlier but I was happy he had a chance to get himself to college now.

You are in a better spot than he was. You can prepare yourself now but you will need a road map. Which is Lesson seven.

Lesson 7: Have a road map

Today is your opportunity to begin to draft your road map to some careers. Many of the people who made this conference possible want to make

your path to a career easier than it was for them. Take advantage of that. Ask some good hard questions. How much do they and can they make? What benefits do they get? How did they prepare? What colleges to go to? What skills are required? And most importantly, are they having fun?

I know that many roads will diverge in the woods for you and you will have to choose which ones will fulfill you at that time.

You in turn will have your own lessons to share with those who will follow after you. So remember if you can my seven lessons:

Did anyone write them all down?

CHOICES ARE NOT IRREVERSIBLE

RELAX

DEVELOP A SKILL BANK

HAVE FUN

KEEP LEARNING

GET READY FOR LUCK

HAVE A ROAD MAP

I know if I had married and had babies and grandbabies, I would not be here today. And if I had stayed in the convent, I would not have walked so many interesting paths. So in choosing some roads and not others I am here with you and close again with Frost:

"I shall be telling this with a sigh

Somewhere ages and ages hence:

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I

I took the one less traveled by,

And that has made all the difference."

Thank you, Have a great conference!

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Advise

FROM PAGE A1

recommending a financial advisory committee, first suggested last October by former Financial Review Chairman Steve Magvary. The draft of the proposed recommendation is not complete, but a version was distributed last fall. The draft version calls for a five-member financial advisory committee that would "advise council on issues directly involving or relating to the fiscal status of the city." The recommendation states that the committee would have access to "financial data of the city" and "financial data of the city."

The subsequent committee meeting members debated the financial advisory committee should be constituted and how members it should have. Of voicing an opinion, a smaller number of advisory committee members to be favored. Some have argued for a relatively open membership—open to most anyone who through an application process to the City Council.

"Think a larger group for this use would be unwieldy," said committee member George Amberg at

last week's meeting. Amberg said the financial advisory committee should not be larger than five. Committee member Peter Loubal urged the advisory group be named a "board," be more investigative in nature, and have seven members. "I think the council needs help in looking at finances and deciding about the budget and so on—so investigating finances is a function," Loubal said.

Committee member Grant Ricketts said such an advisory group could be "easily manipulated to serve a counter-functional purpose of endorsing irresponsible financial planning." Ricketts asked his fellow committee members: "How do you make it objective?" Ricketts said that if objectivity in the proposed advisory group could not be assured, he would not want to support it.

There were also questions as to whether the proposed advisory group should be a city commission or a committee.

Council members Larry Damon and Kathleen Perka attended the meeting. Damon said that commissions were "quasi-judicial" bodies that make decisions that can be appealed to the City Council while committees make recommendations to the City Council.

Damon said he is "bothered" by the idea of a financial advisory com-

mission, saying commission status implies decision-making power to that body. He said a committee designation for such an advisory group would make more sense.

Damon also said that a minimum number of city committees, commissions and boards is best. "This committee can be a sword that cuts two ways," Damon said and that too many committees, commissions and boards can lead to confusion. He added that with a minimum number of such civic advisory groups, the City Council can better hold the city manager and staff "directly accountable for services."

The services for the 21st Century, organized in April 1998, was billed as a "community consensus building program" in the brochure originally describing the effort. "The program will provide valuable citizen input which will become the foundation for future council decisions regarding how best to balance municipal services and taxes."

A computer-assisted general fund expenditures/revenues projection was performed by the committee's Financial Review Team last spring. That projection showed that even with city expenditures "low" and city revenues "high," expenditures could exceed revenues in fiscal year 2002-2003.

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Not "Just" a Mutt

by Nancy DuPont

I was a mutt named Chippie that changed my opinion about the value of pedigrees in our dog friends. The best pedigree a dog can have is his proven loyalty and unconditional love for his human family.

"Mutt"—is the common name for a common dog; a mixed breed with no particular pedigree. A dog, I learned, that can possess uncommon wisdom, loyalty and sensitivity.

As I write, Chippie sits and looks at me; his yellow eyes follow my every move. His yellow-red coat and hint of Dingo heritage gives him the look of a wild dog, perhaps a cross between a fox and a coyote.

As a breeder of horses, I have been advised to select animals according to pedigree, looking for bloodlines that produce certain desirable characteristics that are pleasing or functional. The same is true of how dog breeders make the selection of a well-bred puppy from a long list of championship qualifications.

So I was hopelessly unprepared for the intrusion of a stray Queensland Heeler who wandered into my home and gave birth to a litter of puppies of unknown parentage. The mother rewarded my hospitality by frequently rushing up and biting my ankles if I walked by the tack room, her chosen place of residence. (A tack room is where saddles and riding equipment are kept).

The pups emerged, nine in all, and grew to be personalities in their own right. The future of eight puppies and the mother became instantly brighter as they were placed in loving homes and ranches.

Chippie, the ninth pup became my hero. I marveled at his ability to communicate, asking permission, in his smallest dog voice, before jumping on my bed; showing, with a thousand joyful gestures

that he is glad to see you. He has trained a gaggle of teenage girls to watch him perform a series of tricks from sit up, speak and crawl which he does all at one time, a standing ovation and treats. I know that he would give his life to protect me.

All of these "mutts" have a pedigree from a High Judge of good dogs and cats.

We who are involved in breeding animals could never produce these hardy pioneers of earth's final frontier.

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We want to thank all of you who cared enough to sponsor one of these wonderful animals who would otherwise go unnoticed. For anyone interested in adopting one of them, and we hope you are, the location of the animal can be found to the left of every photo.

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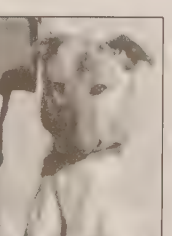
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Pet Talk

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Winter Safety Tips for your pets

As you bundle up in that extra sweater on a blustery winter day, remember to take time for a little extra care for your pets. Here are some suggestions and reminders to get them through the cold days ahead.

Housing - be sure to provide proper shelter for your pets. If yours is an indoor pet, its bed or crate should be kept in a warm, draft-free area, preferably elevated slightly off the floor. If your pet is kept outdoors, provide a

warm insulated pet house or shelter. The house should be elevated enough so that moisture cannot accumulate inside. If possible, provide a door (perhaps of canvas) to keep out the winter winds. If our pet is in a pen, you might block the wind and weather with bales of straw and stretch canvas over the top of the pen. If the wind chill or other weather conditions become severe, bring your pet inside.

Antifreeze: Even a very small

amount of antifreeze can be fatal. Precautions are necessary with all antifreeze products on the market. You should read labels and warnings carefully. Thoroughly clean up spills at once. Keep containers closed tightly and store them where pets cannot get to them.

Napping Cats: Cats sometimes climb onto vehicle engines for warmth. Before starting your vehicle, knock on the hood and honk the horn. Even if

By Dr. Allen A. Cesafsky, DVM

your own cat does not have access to your vehicle, a neighbor's cat might have taken shelter there.

Food Staying warm requires extra calories, so feed your pet accordingly when the temperature drops. Talk to your veterinarian for advice on feeding your pet. Water: Always have fresh, clean water available for your pet. If your pet is kept outdoors, be sure to check his water frequently since it may freeze.

These three wonderful dogs and many more need homes. **FAST.** They are located at the Contra Costa County Animal Shelter in Martinez. Their names are unknown, but their faces tell of hopeful futures. Please remember them when you decide to adopt a new friend. Call Sue Underwood at (925) 820-5093 for adoption information.



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ALBANY HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

Albany High School's honor roll for the first quarter has been announced. These students have earned a 3.3 or higher grade point average:

Ninth grade: André Abreu, Marie Angel, Caitlin Appert, Matthew Ball, Steve Band, Joana Barandier, Daniel Barroll, Christina Battermann, Evan Becchetti, Kirsten Bender, Rachel Berman, Carol Brass, Michelle Burns, Brendan Callum, Alicia Camargo, Jason Chang, Selena Chen, Thomas Chiu, Ernie Chu, Tenzin Chuteng, Michael Clement, Lisa Connolly, Alexandra Cooper, Sarah Craft, Akshay Dhupelia, Robert Diaz, Kate Fahrner, Vanessa Fredericksen-Oxfo, Clara Fu, Miles Fuller, Tiffany Gates, Fiona Gladstone, Daniel Gottlieb, Lucia Graves.

Matthew Hansen, Garin Hecht,

Julie Hirano, Gianna Hoffman-Luca, Diana Hsu, Jonathan Hsu, Summer Jackson, Alexandra Jefferds, Katharine Jensen, Tess Johnson, Ilya Kardailsky, Natalie Kay, David Kessler, Janice Kim, Michelle Kim, Samuel Kravin, Herman Kung, Sung Min Kwon, Albert Lau, Serena Le, Sheri Leung, Eric Lew, Yaping Li, Janice Liu, Katelyn Lyster, Giovanni Maida, Annie Man, Maria Martinez, Ursula Mehl, Carrie Meldgin, Lindsay Melnyk, Margarita Miglio, Marc Moy, Sara Moy, Elizabeth Nelson, Katarina Nelson-Croner, Elizabeth Nutt.

Elisa Pan, Zachary Perkins, Alexandra Phillips, Meryl Phillips, Ted Pickus, Katie Plambeck, Keri Pock, William Pu, Xin Ren, Jacob Rinaldi, Eugene Romm, Marc Samonsky, Dimphy Sasse, Allison Seibel,

Allen Seol, Walker Shapiro, Kara Shure, Lauren Steinberg, Lauren Strohane, Kenta Takeuchi, Liana Tallero, Christina Tan, Emily Tang, Alan Terusaki, Mella Tichenor, Halley Tsai, Sophia Tuttle, Nyendak Wangden, Tommy Wei, Martin Weng, Christopher Wild, Matthew Wilkinson, Stephanie Wissler, Anna Wong, Kelly Wu, Kai-Fan Yang, Tseten Yangdron, Andrew Zawislanski.

10th grade: Jihoon An, Kendall Becker, Kimberly Bell, Eric Bennett, Ryan Bennett, Rebekah Bergeman, Nicole Berger, Tristan Cebulski, Sherry Chang, Jo Jo Chang, Kathleen Chiu, Christine Choi, Irene Chu, Tenzin Chuteng, Andrea Dennis, William Douglas, Gilly Elor, Honey Bee Evans, Thomas Fessler, Emily Fiss-Hobart, Kevin Gamba, Kari Gjerde,

Zoe Griffith, Wenduo Guo, Tessa Hager-Holston, Jie He, Christopher Hsien.

James Izumizaki, Uula Jero, Kira Jones, David Kim, Kathryn Kirkpatrick, David Klein, Luis Ledezma, Annie Lee, Jae Hoon Lee, Sarah Leff, Sasha Levine, Albert Li, Mariko Lightner, Frank Lin, Jeff Lin, Fei-Fei Liu, Wan-Chen Lo, Rachael Lommen, Jennifer Louie, Matthew Madden-Smith, Athalia Markowitz, Andrew Marshall, Elnaz Mashayekhi, Emily McCullough, Annika Miller, Brian Mitchell, Kiyoko Nakamura, Justin Nakano, Lauren Nakasato.

Sean Owens, Karen Phung, Olivia Pisano, Emily Rasmussen, Ashley Reynolds, Columbine Robinson, Benjamin Romeo, Justin Samudio, Yousif Sassi, Jennifer Shih, Caitlin Sly, Henry Tran, Ben Walker, Jacob Winik, Rae Ann Winkelstein, Geoffrey Wirth, Tristen Woodburn, Felicia Wu, Yangyang Wu, Erica Yang, George Zhu.

11th grade: Elisa Abreu, Michelle Baltazar, Genelle Benker, Shannon Brazil, Emily Bruns, Alexander Burr, Elizabeth Carey, Calvin Chan, Arthur Chang, John Dylan Cheasty, Quen Cheng, Nicholas Ching, David Collier, Christopher Colvin, Thomas Conboy, Johnny Din, Tenzing Dolkar, Farnoor Foroutan, Jeremiah Garrett-Pinguelo, Alethea Gentile-Danby, Laurie Grinnell, Manuel Guima, Sixiao Guo.

Stephanie Hagar, Brent Hecht, David Hernandez, Evan Hiraga, Peter Hsu, Bonnie Huang, Phu Huynh, Amy Ying-Zi Jin, Aaron Johnson, Sanam Jorjani, Spencer K'burg, Alison Kamada, David Kao, Lila Keene, Kyle Kemp, Eunji Kim, Junhyung Kim, Miya Kitahara, Daphna Klugman, Malia Lasarte, Helen Lau, Jennifer Lau, Lawrence Lau, Tony Li, James Liao, Lynn Lin, Xin Lu, Maxwell Ma, Margaret Manson, Nicholas Mastronarde, Alexander McCormach, Diego Menocal, Anna Moore, Karl Moore, Trina Nagakura, Jennifer Nejad, Scott Nelson.

Dong-Hwi Park, Daisy Phillips, Wangden Phuntsok, Nicole Pretti, Acacia Quien, Vincent Ramey, Stephanie Roybal, Tang Shan, Jerry Shen, Ariel Sigal, Arjun Singh, Alexander Song, Alexandra Spautz, Natalie Spautz, Sonya Stepanyan, Daniel Sullivan, Xin Sun, Ryan Takemiya, Jessica Takeuchi, Chia-Shan Teoh, Ian Tomkins, Jacob Viani, Jamie Vislosky, Peter Waugh, Cody Wofsy, Jin Yan, Tenzin Yangzom, Emily Yarris, Joseph Yen, Leann Yuen, Rebecca Zarchy.

12th grade: Marion Adams, Julia Armstrong-Mazur, Naomi Augustine, Jonathan Ball, Genna Beattie, Kathryn Booth, Margaret Bower, Nicolas Brenni, Anthony Camargo, Iliana Carter, Yvette Cashmere, Margaret Chan, Aaron Chang, Amy Chen, Jerry Chen, Christopher Chin,

Aaron Crane, Erin Danie, Diaz, Wame Dikobe, Fran Daria Eiteneer, Arthur Ellis, dem, Theresa Esparrago, Failor, Caitlin Fischer, Lynn Fong, Milton Fong, Shiyu Fujisaka.

Teodros Gad, Narges Christine Gjerde, Mahtahammadi, Andrea Gottlieb, Greene, Oriana Hair, Mar, Andrew Hara, Benjamin Hudes, William Hutson, Emily Jackson, Abdul-Rahmadi, Kamran Javandel, Scott Kagawa, Sung Yun-Li, Edmond Leung, Sherry Liu, Jesse Lorber, Lucero, Lawton Mak, Lin, shall, Alexis Martin, Leif, Amanda Mehl, Eva Melkon, glas Mok.

Seena Nassiri, Veer, ranatkul, Stacey Phelps, Phillips, Yaniv Plan, Karin Kelly Proper, Lauren Quinn, Raghuathan, Audrey Razi, Aaron Roan, Evan R, Kathryn Robinson, Angelica Shahrom Roshani, Nathan, Alison Schopmeyer, Chris Schweitzer, Colin Shepard, fian, Emma Swan, Prisc, Chia-Ling Teoh, Morgan T, Thongvanh, Rachel Town, tor Tsai, Cherry Tyler, Ch, Uchiyama, Rosa Wang, Ka, Melody Wright, Daniel Y, Yuann, Alice Zhang, Howa,

Defense

FROM PAGE A1

to sleep when cited," Sternberg said. "The defense basically recognizes that the right to sleep is a basic human necessity. People should not have to wander around looking for a place to sleep because there is no alternative."

"When you have a city the size of Albany, we simply do not have the resources to address these problems," Albany City Attorney Robert Zweben said. "It is a regional problem, and we need to pursue regional solutions."

"I suspect that the District Attorney's Office did not feel they have the resources to follow up on prosecution of these cases," Zweben surmised. Since Albany participates in county programs, "it's irrelevant whether we provide services here," he said, reasserting a previously stated view.

Albany will continue to enforce a

curfew at the Bulb and a camping ban there and at other waterfront locations despite the rulings, Zweben said.

"(These rulings) are a short-sighted attempt to address this kind of problem in Albany. It is not practical," Zweben said.

"None of this should have ever happened," Sternberg countered. "Outside economic forces are the real cause of homelessness. Yet even in this society, where profits are put before people, individuals living on the landfill could have been put to work on whatever project they are doing out there. A lot of them have skills that could have been put to use."

Sternberg said he is disappointed by the apparent lack of public support for residents of the Bulb.

"Even many so-called progressives didn't care about what happened to these people because they were kicked out to create a nice park," he said. "And many of these same individuals simply don't want to deal with the homeless issue, or to even think about it."

"It's just not practical to do more than what we have already done," Zweben said, pointing to services he said Albany offered former Bulb residents, including referrals to agencies in Alameda County. He also questioned why the necessity defense was allowed by Judge Greenberg.

The necessity defense is based on a ruling by a state appellate panel in Santa Ana last January. A three-judge panel ruled that attorneys for James Eichorn, convicted of sleeping in a public place in violation of a city ordinance, should have been allowed to present the defense to a jury.

"Sleep is a psychological need, not an option for humans," the panel ruled.

Zweben reasserted his belief that the case rulings and the Eichorn Ruling will have no impact on the enforcement of the waterfront ordinance in Albany. The city will continue to enforce a curfew at the Bulb and a camping ban there and at other waterfront locations despite the rulings, he said.

on Moeser Lane, where a rally will follow.

The event is sponsored by the city, along with the El Cerrito chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and St. Peter Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

Parade organizers are still looking for any band interested in participating. For more information, call Davis at 510-237-5749, or parade marshal, Patricia Durham, at 510-234-2518.

He added, "I think we're going to have to try to work a little harder on better communication."

Davis said she prefers the local band but will take whatever she can get.

Marching band or not, El Cerrito's parade, in honor of the birthday of the slain civil rights leader, will begin at 10 a.m., Monday, in the parking lot of the Department of Motor Vehicles on Mania Avenue at Kearny Street. Winding through city streets, it will end at the Community Center

Parade

FROM PAGE A1

a clear-cut confirmation. The band, a regular music class, doesn't meet in the spring semester and rounding up students can be tough, he said.

But Aaronian said Monday he will do all he can to pull the band together in time.

"We'll try our best to get them there," he said. "We really want them to participate."

Shooting

FROM PAGE A1

pick up my daughter (from the center) and saw the police cars, I asked what was going on," said parent Barbara Berkerman. "Some older boy in the daycare center said someone was shooting a gun. My 7-year-old daughter was very frightened. And when she came over with that look on her face, I thought 'oh, my.'"

"One of the kids in there told me that an hour before, a guy shot a gun

and escaped. But when I showed up at (the center around 6 o'clock), the door was not locked. That concerned me."

Beckerman, whose daughter is going on her third year at the Castro day-care facility, said after the incident that children said they were instructed by one of the day-care employees "to pretend that nothing happened."

"But when I called the city childcare center supervisor, she knew nothing about the incident," Berkerman added. "That also worried me."

"We are doing our best to protect our children," said Cori Diaz, Child

Care Program supervisor for the city of El Cerrito. "I don't feel that there's any need to address any issue the parent raised. I have spoken to her and it seemed the situation was satisfactory."

"Anywhere you go someone can pull out a gun. It can happen anywhere. It's a societal problem."

"That's not to blow it off," Diaz quickly added. "We are very concerned. But look at the recent home invasion (in Alamo). The (child-care) center is located on public property, and we can't keep people out of there. But we are doing our best to protect the children."

Cee Beelof
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Real Estate & Home

The Montclair, The Berkeley Voice, The Piedmonter, The Journal

January 14, 2000

Section B

True Experiences Tarpoff and Talbert give 1999 the business [B2]

Weekly Sales Put the market in perspective with the latest stats [B7]

Open Homes Get a jump on the competition with our handy listings [B12]

No assembly required

■ If you don't want to be bothered by irritating unpacking and decorating, order your home 'ready to wear'

By Patti Doten
BOSTON GLOBE

IT LOOKS AS EASY as watching a young girl decorate her doll's house.

Up go the drapes. Down go the rugs. In go the big pieces of furniture, followed by chairs and side tables. Add a painting here and a mirror there. Put linens on the beds and towels in the bathrooms. Then accessorize the place with picture frames, books and candleholders. Finally, everything's ready for the miniature family of your daughter's imagination.

Last month, drapes went up, rugs went down, and furnishings were put in place in a house on Cape Cod. But this was not a doll's house. It was a four-room, two-bath guest house on a spit of land anchored by a large summer home on a former 100-acre estate. The small house went from empty to completely furnished and accessorized in three days. Designers call it "turnkey installation."

In other words, the owners can arrive on their doorstep with their suitcases, turn the key to the front door lock, and walk into their newly refurbished home. They don't even have to worry about napkins, toilet paper or toothbrush holders.

Such "instant" decorating projects,

however, belie months of planning, ordering, warehousing and coordinating. It's a little more complicated than setting up Barbie in a new home. It's also a little more expensive: about \$100 a square foot, which works out to about \$160,000 for this house. (Plus more for any precious antiques, of course.)

But for the clients, it's like arriving at the theater and seeing a multiroom stage set filled with all their favorite furnishings, fabrics and family memorabilia.

"We like to keep the owners at bay and have everything set up the way it's intended to be before they see it," says Lee Bierly of Bierly-Drake Associates in Boston, the 20-year-old interior design firm that revitalized the large Cape home and its guest house.

"This makes the venture more successful — and also more fun for the clients, because of the element of surprise. By the time they arrive, the laundry's done, the beds are made, flowers are everywhere, and we greet them with presents and champagne at the door."

Leading up to this moment in the Cape guest house were 2½ years of work. The owners hired an architect, landscaper and interior designer after purchasing the property. The main house, built in 1905, was a dim shadow of its former self and needed to be completely updated and reconfigured (14 bedrooms reduced to nine, each with a private bath), with a wing added to accommodate an active couple and their three young children.

The work went on for years, but the main-house "installation" last spring took

See READY, Page B18

A GUEST HOUSE went from empty to furnished and accessorized in three days. And the owners didn't have to set foot in the place. Designers call this wonderment "turnkey installation."

BOSTON GLOBE PHOTOS



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PIEDMONT MILLION DOLLAR VIEW.....\$1,088,000
Magnificent home with top-of-the-world view. 4BD, 3.5BA, two master suites, family room/kitchen combo with 2nd fireplace, formal dining, high ceilings, new bathrooms, lots of marble, glass, stone and space!
120 Maxwell Road
NAHID NASSIRI 510-531-1670

BEST BUY IN MONTCLAIR.....\$549,500
Charming Traditional. 3BD, 3BA. Home office. Family room. Formal dining room. Hardwood. Approximately 1/3 acre. Gorgeous yard for privacy and much more
6833 Moore
MARTHA SHIN 510-287-9806

BEGIN HERE.....\$199,500
Popular area in San Leandro on tree lined street, just minutes to Bay Fair Mall shopping and BART. 3BD, 1BA, hardwood floors, fireplace, formal dining, eat-in kitchen, fenced yard.
1059 Grace
NAHID NASSIRI 510-531-1670



1ST OPEN - COUNTRY IN THE CITY.....\$345,000
Classic 1920's architect designed in English country style situated on approximately .25 acre paradise. 3+BD, 2+BA, detached studio and greenhouse. San Leandro North area's finest!
201 Beverly Ave., San Leandro
EARLE SHENK 510-287-9590

JUST LISTED.....\$210,000
Move right into this charmer 3BD, 1BA, hardwood floors, fireplace in living room, formal dining, breakfast room, backyard with patio and BBQ. A great buy!
3020 Millsbrae
MARIA SINCLAIR 510-287-9596

SAN LEANDRO CONDO.....\$135,000
Lots of upgrades. 2BD, 1BA. Ideal location. Freshly painted and more
ARNOLD MUELLER 510-530-6069



PIEDMONT TRADITIONAL WITH VIEW.....\$798,000
Gracious and elegant. Traditional with high ceilings, mansion-like rooms, wood moldings, custom wood shutters. 2+BD, 2.5BA, family room, formal dining room, fabulous master suite!
NAHID NASSIRI 510-531-1670



INCREDIBLE GLENVIEW DUPLEX.....\$395,000
Newly Listed. Charming 2BD, 1BA lower unit with lovely moldings, large updated kitchen, room for office. Upper unit is sun-drenched studio with Bay Bridge view.
HAL MARCUS 510-287-5886



INCREDIBLE GLENVIEW DUPLEX.....\$395,000
Newly listed and available 1/22. Charming 2BD, 1BA lower unit with lovely moldings, large updated kitchen, room for office. Upper unit is sun-drenched studio with Bay Bridge view.
HAL MARCUS 510-287-5886

WHY PAY RENT?.....\$180,000
When this convenient San Leandro townhouse has everything you need. 2 story, 2BD, 1.5BA has new carpet, paint and a cozy fireplace. Partial bay view from bedroom window. Very nice.
ROSEMARY GREENE 510-339-4000

Lots and Land

29.64 ACRES! SAN RAMON!.....\$595,000
4 waterfalls, 2 springs, community well, hay barn with tack room, 5,000 gallon holding tank, electricity, private paved road to edge of property, borders park on two sides, fenced surveyed and views. Some seller financing. 140P.
RON GATTI 925-837-2200

PLAN FOR A CRAFTSMAN.....\$210,000
Wooded Montclair lot close to Village with completed plans for 4,000 sq.ft., 4BD, 3BA home.
C. HARTLEY 510-287-9588

CHEAPER DANVILLE LOT.....\$159,000
Yes, over four tenths of an acre, gently sloping, but you have to realize it's close to the freeway. There is noise, but oh what a value. It's really a pretty piece of land. Call for info.
TIM AHLBERG 925-837-2200

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME.....\$59,000
...on this upper Rockledge lot on dead end street. Desirable area with wonderful schools. Lot is 60 x 100, upslope. All underground assessments have been paid.
NAHID NASSIRI 510-531-1670

Commercial

GREAT LOCATION!.....\$ CALL
Excellent prime San Ramon location for professional business usage: mortgage, insurance, accountant, attorney or learning center. Lower level office space has 3 offices, conference room or multi-purpose room, utility room and storage.
FRANCES LOW 925-837-2200

GORGEOUS ESTATE.....\$1,499,000
Not on M.S. yet. Call agent for more information on this spectacular 6,500 sq.ft. home set on a lush acre in Walnut Creek.
MARGE BLAKE-MYERS 925-837-2200

TUSCANY IN LAFAYETTE WITH MESMERIZING VIEWS.....\$1,399,500
Elegance, privacy and the finest quality of appliances, material and craftsmanship are just a few of the amenities in this 5BD (3 suites) and 5.5BA, 3 car garage with truly gourmet kitchen. Easy access to I-24 and BART. Too many amenities to mention. It's a must see.
FRANCISCO CABARITA 925-837-2200

DANVILLE/PLEASANTON.....\$1,285,000
5BD, 3.5BA, huge gourmet kitchen, formal living room, formal dining room, large family room. Includes 6-stall barn, 4 fenced pastures, orchards of fruit trees. Convenient location near Blackhawk.
MIRA GOETSCH 925-837-2200

DEER RIDGE.....\$729,000
Hurry, this wonderful "new" San Ramon home won't last. 4BD, 2.5BA, sitting room, bonus room. New paint, carpet, fixtures and bathrooms plus top of the line kitchen appliances.
JIM SWEENEY 925-837-2200

PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP.....\$629,000
WOW! Just remodeled Lafayette beauty. 5BD, 3BA with 1BD downstairs. Gleaming hardwood floors, built-in desk, huge family room, pool, gorgeous grounds, RV parking.
FRANCISCO CABARITA 925-837-2200

NEW ON MARKET.....\$529,000
Sharp 4BD, 3BA on a level private Danville lot with court location. Open floor plan features formal living/dining, volume ceiling, kitchen/family room combo, 2 fireplaces, plus many builder upgrades and extras. Popular neighborhood in area of more expensive homes, close to shopping, dining, entertainment and parks. Community amenities include clubhouse, pool, spa and tennis, mature landscaping with beautiful redwoods
NORM MAHAHL 925-837-2200

DANVILLE.....\$526,950
Wonderful 5BD plus den and library, 3BA, 2,900 sq.ft. Remodeled and updated, pool, spa, great area, close to parks and schools, all new dual pane windows.
NORM STANLEY 925-837-2200

FANTASTIC CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION.....\$519,950
Danville. 4BD, 2BA, gorgeous hardwood entry, close to greenbelt, park, close to Greenbrook community pool, tennis.
NORM STANLEY 925-837-2200

WESTSIDE! DANVILLE!.....\$489,000
Breath-taking views of Las Trampas. Beautiful 3BD, 2.5 BA, hardwood floors, 48 acre lot, great expansion potential. Newer furnace and A/C, spa.
RON GATTI 925-837-2200

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS.....\$479,000
is how you'll feel when you enter this warm and cozy San Ramon home. From the open dining room to the two large master suites, this home expresses open hospitality. 5BD, 3 full BA and sitting on tranquil cul-de-sac. You won't want to leave.
M. GOODYKOONTZ 925-837-2200

VIEWS! VIEWS! VIEWS!.....\$449,950
Nice 3BD, 2.5BA detached San Ramon home with 2 balconies and views! Formal living room has marble fireplace. Eat-in kitchen has sliding glass door leading to balcony with patio. Spacious master bedroom with large walk-in closet. Vaulted ceilings, indoor laundry and more!
MARIO CARDANINI 925-837-2200

LANDMARK BUILDING.....\$389,000
Charming 5-unit building has hardwood floors, big windows, arches and many other early 1920's features. Haddon Hill location.
PATRICIA BENNETT 510-482-9000

CASTRO VALLEY BEAUTY.....\$359,950
4BD, 2BA with 2 fireplaces, 2-car garage, 2.5BA, large storage area ideal for wine cellar, beautiful pond with waterfall, and koi fish. 22 acre lot.
RON GATTI 925-837-2200

LOFTY PREMISES (AT NON-LOFTY PRICE).....\$307,950
Jack London Square, 1,411 sq.ft. in premier award-winning 10-unit Pocket Building. High beamed ceilings, floor-to-ceiling windows, 1-car security parking, walk to marina, shopping, restaurants.
SHERDELLA SIMS 510-287-9586

MAXWELL PARK BARGAIN!.....\$189,000
Buyer didn't qualify so it's your chance to buy this cute starter. 2BD, large living and dining rooms, hardwood floors, termite work completed, freshly painted and ready to go.
MARIA SINCLAIR 510-287-9596

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End of year review finds market jumps

We held our end-of-year review this week. Everyone was there. All of the T & T shareholders and department heads, the corporation executives and employees, those responsible for accounting, acquisition, marketing, promotion – both of us – lounged by the fire sipping cups of cheer.

In her opening remarks, co-founder and CEO Anet Tarpoff relaxed against the couch cushions and remarked, "We have much for which to be grateful."

"Hear, hear," the rest of us intoned. "Nineteen ninety-nine was fun, it was interesting, we loved the people, and we made a living. Let's look at the stats, listen to the reports," and for the next hour we were enraptured.

First, the count and the breakdown: We were very lucky to have had more listings than buyers in 1999. Eighty percent of our transactions were listings, about half located in Berkeley, the rest in Albany, El Cerrito and Oakland. Every house we marketed attracted more than one offer in less than two weeks and all sold for more than asking price.

All sales were "as is"; that is, the buyers took responsibility for any repair work that remained. All but one closed in 21 days or less.

For houses listed under \$400,000, there was an average of six offers. These houses sold, on average, for 19 percent over list price. For properties priced at more than \$400,000, the average number of offers was four. These sold for an average of 16 percent higher than list.

Our sellers were happy, we were happy, and the winning buyers were delighted, too. It was a good year.

But where did our sellers go? It's easier to sell these days in our market area than it is to buy. All year long we heard from old clients wanting to know if they should sell and buy again. We asked where they would go. Sure, they could sell, but what could they buy? Interestingly, the majority of the sellers in our sales this year – 60 percent – had no immediate plans to buy again.

The largest group moved out of the area, most to another state, usually due to job transfers. One couple, seeking escape from house maintenance, rented locally; one older woman moved to a care facility, one sale was an estate. Several sellers

True Experiences



By Tarpoff and Talbert

owned a rental house and felt this was a good time to liquidate.

We went to great lengths to help our sellers present their houses well. We gathered written information on our listings to give to prospective buyers so they would know as much as possible about the houses before writing their offers. Pre-market inspections included (depending on the house and in what city it was located) general physical inspections, termite, sewer, fireplace, energy conservation and roof reports.

Pre-inspections uncovered two dangerous furnaces and a dead hot water heater which were replaced or repaired before marketing; also one restorable fireplace with the bid for the work passed along to the buyer. Two dishwashers broke down during marketing and a couple of pipes began to leak. (Anet swears that houses being sold develop leaks far more often than normal – because they are weeping?).

The worst news we got, totally unexpected, was that a house we were about to have painted, floors refinished, needed a whole new foundation. We and the sellers were stunned; there had been no indication of problems with the foundation. The house was located on flat land and the floors of the house were level, but the concrete in this 70 year old house had completely failed. It was so crumbly that a screwdriver could be thrust through parts of it like cutting butter.

We regrouped, got bids for a new foundation, agonized, and finally decided to sell the house with its foundation as it was. We had the house thoroughly cleaned and staged, priced it at a point where we hoped we could attract buyers willing to take on its problems.

We were surprised by a tremendous amount of interest and six of-

fers. Location did play a large part in our success. This house was located on a sought after street in Albany.

Painting and yard clean-up and floor refinishing was done on many of our listings. All but two were professionally cleaned, including windows, inside and out.

Almost three-quarters of our sellers hired a stager – an expert who places furniture, accessories and flowers to show off houses to best effect. Did staging make the sellers money? We think it did. We worked out that staged houses (including ones we sold to our buyers) sold for an average of 18 percent over list price. Those that we deal with this year without staging sold for an average price of 7 percent over list.

So, who bought these houses? Over and over during offer presentations we heard, "This is my buyers' fifth offer" or even, "They've made offers on 10 houses and been overbid each time." It's a hard market for buyers.

Our own stats show that 75 percent of our listings were bought by first-time buyers. Thirty percent of the buyers in our transactions paid all cash. Our clients who were both buying and selling were lucky enough to have the cash to buy before they sold. Therefore, thank goodness, no one had to move twice.

Forty-two percent of the buyers were single people, 31 percent couples without children, 26 percent families.

Fully 64 percent of our clients are retired, but some quite young. Not all buyers worked in the computer industry; only 39 percent.

Our favorite part of our annual meeting is talking about the people, new friends, our delight in knowing them. Marty immediately comes to mind. She served us tea in porcelain cups whenever we went to visit. We greatly enjoy our friendship with this lovely woman who has relocated to New Mexico and is pursuing new life adventures.

Marty was confident about moving, knew that it was the time to leave Berkeley and her house of many years and yet, it was difficult to part. When the house was all ready to show to buyers, Marty invited her children and grandchildren to come to say goodbye to the house.

Other clients, a family with near-

teenage children, moved from an exceptional, pastoral setting in Berkeley, complete with a tire swing on a huge old tree, to live in Manhattan – quite a change.

Dear people, warm and open, fun to be with and to work with, they're doing fine in New York. They rented a flat almost as large as the house they sold, complete with doorman and a deli a few doors away.

We had only one reluctant seller this year, forced to move because his partner had landed a job on the East Coast. Mike didn't want to go. He liked his house, his job, his life in the Bay Area. He mourned for months.

When we suggested that the carpeting be taken up to expose the floor, Mike said no. We asked about putting the doors back on the bedroom closets; Mike said he liked the closets that way. He moped; he declared that they'd never find another Craftsman house, that they'd be forced to live in something ugly.

But it all turned out just fine. He relented; the carpet was removed, and this was good, although the closets remained door-less. Lots of people loved the house, closet doors or not, and it was sold.

Within a month of moving, Mike and his partner found a dream house in Vermont. It isn't a Craftsman but, Mike says, it's even better with seven acres, a pond, meadow and woods, horse barn, room for everyone he knows to visit and stay. Mike e-mailed us: "I'm very excited about this place."

We closed our meeting with projections and goals for 2000: More listings, more good people. We toasted our present and past clients, as well as those to come.

Meeting adjourned.

Anet Tarpoff and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patanet@lmi.net or by phone at 510-653-2050.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

■ To learn about architectural styles of the East Bay, join Mark Wilson's class, "Historic Architecture of the East Bay" at Piedmont Adult School. The class meets Tuesdays from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Fee is \$45 per person. To enroll or to get more information, call 510-594-2655.

Thursday, January 14

Women's Council of Realtors proudly presents "Forecasting Your Future: The new millennium." 11:30 a.m. networking, noon lunch. H's Lordships Restaurant, 199 Seawall Dr., Berkeley. Sponsor: RB Termite Control. Reservations: 510-482-3800 or e-mail Ramona Chang at HaywardCRB@aol.com.

Tuesday, January 18

Merritt College real estate classes for laymen and agents. Nine different classes for the upcoming spring semester which begins today. Courses may be taken concurrently and cost \$36 each. Merritt College offers an associate of arts degree in real estate and a certificate in real estate. For more information and to register, call 510-436-2409 or visit Web site peralta.cc.ca.us.

Ongoing

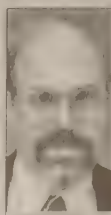
UC Botanical Garden Enjoy a free tour of the UC Botanical Garden at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Special-interest classes on a variety of subjects available. The garden is located on Centennial Drive behind the UC-Berkeley campus. Call 510-642-3343.

Credit counseling. Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a nonprofit community service organization in Oakland has a series of free workshops. Registration is mandatory. Call (800) 501-SAVE.

Discover Oakland's changing skyline, landmarks, churches and high-rises on one of the free guided walking tours sponsored by the city's Community and Economic Development Agency. Call 510-238-3234.

Sick plant clinic. Join University of California pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month for a free Sick Plant Clinic at the UC Botanical Gardens, 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. Drop in with a piece of a sick or a dying plant and Dr. Raabe will diagnose the problem.

Owning a Piece of History



Call 510-643-2755.

Zero-down loans: Pizzani East County families, second Wednesdays of the month at First American Title, 3300 Road, Antioch. Presented by Unity Funding. 925-778-4500.

First-time home buyers Learn how to buy a house in County for minimal or no money down. Classes held regularly at 1210 Central Blvd., Brentwood. 925-516-5795 for schedule.

California Association of Real Estate Lenders: Group meetings on Thursday of the month at Canyon Country Club in Danville. 746-1847. Mortgage Brokerage at San Francisco Design Center, a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays through Interior design exhibit of the Free. See showrooms. 2 H St., S.F. 415-490-5800.

Using government grants to buy a home: Learn how to buy a home for \$2,000 or less even with poor credit. Seminars in Walnut Creek, Danville, Pleasanton by Re/Max and Key Mortgages. 925-362-0424.

Credit-report preparation: to get your credit ready to home loan (free credit report) weekly classes at Diablo Valley Group, 587 Ygnacio Valley Rd., Nut Creek. 925-945-6112, esnyder1@ectimes.com.

We accept event announcements on a space-available basis. Send to this section to 510-4066, write 5707 Redwood Oakland 94619 or e-mail jsnyder1@ectimes.com.

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Oakland

\$65,000 1400 E. 15th ST. Commercial building along side of PENDING. Adjacent family home also for sale. Bev & George Williams 522-7173

\$89,000 1864th 39th AVE. Great single level home off of Foothill. 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, utility room and off street parking. John Friedrich 814-4704

\$149,000 1695 8th ST. Perfect live-work rehab opportunity! Approx. 3000 sq.ft. of space. Gutted, needs total rehab, 3 meters. Priced to sell! Call for details. Kathy Hirsch 814-4706

\$165,000 1408 E. 15th ST. Two units, large owners unit. PENDING. Callings, and finished attic with 2-plus rooms. Bev & George Williams 522-7173

\$179,000 245 PERKINS ST. #39. Large airy 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with new paint, new linoleum, new carpet, laundry room down the hall, owner will clear pest report and give credit for cabinet repair. Kathy Hirsch 814-4706

\$495,000 2270 HIGH ST. Residential income! Five buildings - Two fourplexes, 3 houses and 4 garages, extra parking on site. Call now for details! Tere Lee 814-4840

Santa Rosa

\$1,295,000 2200 COUNTY CENTER DR. Investment Property! Eight large professional suites - 101 and 102 off 101 and Steadman. Minutes from Coddington Plaza (Mall) Excellent return. Margaret Lomba (510) 814-4829

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PACIFIC UNION

Please recycle what you can

Know the pitfalls if you bypass services of real estate agent

Real Estate Forum



By Dian Hymer

"It's difficult to maintain the objectivity that's required to negotiate and execute the best deal for yourself."

About 20 percent of homes sold in this country are sold without a real estate agent. Surveys show that the most common reason for buying or selling a home without an agent is to save money. Real estate commissions are negotiable, but they usually range from 5 to 6 percent of the sale price for residential property. So, if you sell your home for \$300,000 and pay a 6 percent commission, this will reduce net proceeds from the sale by \$18,000.

On the other hand, if you list your home for sale with an agent and get market exposure, it might sell for a high enough price to offset the cost of the commission.

Let's say that money is not the issue. Perhaps your Aunt Tillie

passed away and you have the opportunity to buy her home before it's listed for sale. What should you be aware of before going ahead?

One of the reasons home buyers and sellers use an agent's services is

to make sure that all compliance and disclosure issues are dealt with properly. If you don't have first hand experience with the ongoing changes in the residential real estate industry, you'll need to do some research or hire a real estate attorney to make sure that nothing is overlooked.

Otherwise, you could face legal problems in the future. Another issue for buyers and sellers who are dealing directly is how to establish the price. Buyers don't want to pay more than fair market value and sellers want the highest price possible.

One solution is to hire a licensed appraiser to appraise the property based on recent comparable sales in the area. Be sure to use an experienced appraiser who knows the local area well. An out-of-area ap-

praiser might not be familiar with the subtleties of local market pricing.

An appraisal, even if completed by the best local appraiser, may not be an accurate reflection of current market value. Appraisals are somewhat subjective and the real estate market is constantly changing.

In a rapidly changing market, yesterday's comparable sales may already be out of date. A benefit of listing a property for sale and exposing it to as many prospective buyers as possible is that it resolves the pricing issue.

If the list price is lower than what the market will bear, the price is bid up by competing buyers. A home that's listed too high for the market will usually sit on the market unsold

until the price is reduced to market level.

A risk you run buying or selling directly is that you pay too much or sell for too little. Although, under some circumstances, it may be worth the risk.

One buyer who bought directly from a friend paid about \$15,000 over the market price. But she's still living in the house 17 years later and loving it. Perhaps the biggest pitfall of representing yourself is that it's difficult to maintain the objectivity that's required to negotiate and execute the best deal for yourself.

Unlike other business transactions, buying and selling homes tends to be emotional. If you decide to buy or sell directly, consider hiring a knowledgeable real estate

attorney or real estate agent to oversee the transaction and to make sure that all the details are completed properly.

Many agents will handle such a transaction for about half of what the normal commission would be. Don't underestimate the time that's required to successfully negotiate and close a home sale. If you're short of time, get help from a professional.

Dian Hymer is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office and author of "Starting Out, The Complete Home Buyer's Guide." Available in book stores or from Chronicle Books; (800) 722-6657.

Conventional wisdom holds Gen-Xers career-lazy — Whatever

By Alan J. Heavens
PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

PEOPLE WHO BELIEVE real estate is a game for those 35 and older should meet Melanie

Weiss, 35, as her boss at Prudential Fox & Roach in Center City, Philadelphia, when it comes to selling houses.

Weiss' age puts her in that 21-to-30-year-old group known as Generation X, a segment of the population sometimes derided by more numerous boomers as somewhat less career-oriented.

But, according to Gayle Carson, president of the Carson Research Group in Miami Beach, is just plain wrong. "They are as enthusiastic about careers as any age group," said Carson, a management consultant motivating employees.

"They also are just as loyal as employees of any age group," she said. "They are just not the kind of people who are willing to stay with a company for 20 years." And for reasons most boomers would understand.

"They have seen the downsizing, engineering, restructuring and reorganization that have played an important part in the last few years, eliminating the security and of corporate America," Carson

said. "Because of it, 'there are no rules' for them, and they don't plan on changing their working lives in one sitting through the ranks," she

said. "People of any age, Gen-Xers, now make up one-third of the country's work force, sometimes

Contrary to some opinions, these twenty- and thirtysomethings are real estate go-getters

don't follow through with their original career choices.

Weiss studied fashion merchandising in college, but after meeting Richard Frick, a stockbroker who is now her husband, "I decided that I didn't want to move to New York City," the fashion center of the United States.

Instead she took a job as a merchandiser at Knit Wit, a Center City-based chain of women's clothing stores.

Then the real estate bug bit her. "Frick and I had bought and sold houses, and I found the whole process really exciting," Weiss said. Then she met Joanne Davidow, a Prudential Fox & Roach vice president, whose husband, Donnie, is an owner of Knit Wit.

In June, she began selling real estate full time with Davidow as her

boss and mentor, and is trying to learn everything she can about the business, "because no matter what I learn about real estate, I will be able to bring it with me wherever I go," Weiss said.

The most important thing to Gen-Xers, Carson said at a recent seminar at the National Association of Realtors convention in Orlando, Fla., "is opportunities to develop skills for their next job."

"They particularly want to learn something new every day, so they know that their time is well spent," Carson said. "They will work hard to achieve what they want, which is an investment in themselves."

They also think outside the box, which, in Weiss' case, involves "making my buyers feel comfortable with the process," she said. "A lot of times,

real estate agents seem to forget that this is real money that someone is spending, and I think it's important to remember that and try to help the buyer make the right decisions and get through this."

What Weiss has learned, she tailors to fit her clients. The majority of them are first-time buyers, and mostly people in her age group — either friends or referrals from friends.

After offering a job to young people, the "next single biggest thing you can offer is mentoring," Carson

said. "It used to be called an apprenticeship, but there was not the coaching and versatility that now goes along with this latest technique."

Gen-Xers "like and admire people who have been there and done that, but only if they are wise as well," Carson said. "They enjoy people who will be role models and share experiences. And they particularly admire people who push them beyond what they themselves believe they can achieve."

There are more single men than women, and some, though not many, married couples, Weiss said. They are mostly under 30. "They seem very confident about money and willing to take on a mortgage," she said.

Weiss and others her age are coming into real estate with skills that aren't native to the industry, particularly technological ones.

"I'm not afraid of computers because I've been using them since high school and through college," she said. "I notice a lot of people in my office are still wary of them, so I try to offer them help when they have questions."

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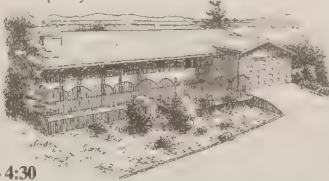
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3501 Richmond Blvd. New Listing \$535,000
This handsome 14 yr old building with four 2BR units is located just blocks from Piedmont Ave. Ideal for owner occupant. Great condition and location. Ed Kuo
1405 Brewster Drive, El Cerrito \$499,000
El Cerrito hills view home. 3BR/2BA. New interior paint, new carpet. Large, nearly 12,000 sq. ft. lot. Melitta Beeson
35 Innacade Hill New Listing \$489,000
Lovely Hiller Highlands townhouse with smashing Bay view. 2BR/2BA plus loft. Private terrace off kitchen. Great location. Spacious garage w/ample storage. Elizabeth Dickson

6012 Colton Blvd. New Listing \$485,000
Dramatic and spacious Montclair contemporary w/filtered views! Close-in location. One owner. 3BR/3BA, family room & study. Sunny decks w/great vistas. Angela Wei Grubb
4676 Redwood Road New Listing \$429,000
Popular Leona Park Villas townhouse in the Oakland Hills. 3BR/2.5BA w/serene canyon views. Well maintained. Kurt Buchholz
3725 Canon Avenue New Listing \$189,000
Unbelievable price for this 2BR/1BA home with fenced level backyard. Set up on a knoll, affording privacy, with hardwood floors & built-ins. Judy Rankankan

By Appointment

Elegant Piedmont Pines Home \$469,000
Quality home set on a quiet cul-de-sac in Piedmont Pines. Stunning kitchen & updated throughout. 3BR/2BA + rumpus. Bonus room down. Angela Wei Grubb
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North Berkeley
Berkeley/Oakland Hills

Company raises stink over copper gas piping

Q Last month, we bought a 35-year-old home. The property was well maintained, so we decided not to waste money on an inspection. Now it seems that we made a big mistake. Since closing escrow, the gas company has discontinued service because the gas pipes are made of copper. They say that copper is unsafe and steel pipes should be installed. How can the old pipes be a problem if they've worked properly for all these years?

A: Copper gas piping is very rare, and is usually found only in homes constructed during the mid-1950s. Copper was disallowed many years ago because natural gas contains traces of sulfur, and sulfur has a corrosive effect on copper. Corrosion in a gas line can cause leakage, a decidedly unfavorable occurrence.

Fortunately, deterioration to that extent is rare. More commonly, sulfur-induced corrosion produces loose particles of debris, which can clog gas orifices, reducing the safe and efficient operation of burners

Home Inspections



By Barry Stone

"Corrosion in a gas line can cause leakage, a decidedly unfavorable occurrence."

and regulators.

In your house, the gas system has apparently been operating for decades without noticeable problems. But this does not mean an incident cannot occur in the future. The interior pipe surfaces have been exposed to sulfur for many years, and the cumulative effect of this exposure could be significant.

However, old copper gas pipes are often coated with an interior lining of tin to protect the copper surfaces from sulfur exposure. If that is the case with your piping,

then there should be absolutely no need to repair or replace the lines. To determine whether your pipes are tin-lined, a licensed plumber should evaluate the system.

Had you hired a qualified inspector before purchasing the property, copper gas piping would most likely have been brought to your attention at that time, rather than after the close of escrow. Corrective work, if such had been needed, could have been negotiated and resolved before you took possession of the house.

Q: After listing my home for sale, my agent said the guard rail around my deck is unsafe because the openings are wider than 6 inches. The estimated cost for repair is very high. Is this work really necessary?

A: Safety being a priority, I would recommend it highly. The reason for spacing requirements at guard rails is to keep small children on the safe side of the railing. Violations are quite common and have resulted in some tragic accidents. Safety specifications for guard

rails have changed several times during recent years, so the vintage of construction has some bearing on legal requirements. Current building standards for new railings require spaces to be no wider than 4 inches. The 6-inch spacing rule mentioned by your agent applies to railings built from 1985 through 1992. Before then, 9-inch spaces were allowed. Upgrading to current safety standards is not mandated for older construction, but is nonetheless strongly recommended. If the cost estimate for upgrading your railings seems high, I recommend getting at least two more bids for the work.

Barry Stone is a certified building inspector and nationally syndicated columnist based in San Luis Obispo. Send questions to Barry

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

A guide to some resources — stores, associations, designers, architects, contractors, books, Web sites — that may prove useful. Some of the names were borrowed from "Architectural Resource Guide," edited by David Kibbey for Architects, Designers, Planners for Social Responsibility.

Information

■ **Air quality.** The California Department of Health Services Indoor Air Quality Section maintains an excellent Web site with thorough information about molds in the home, asbestos, the dangers of ozone generators, and more. www.cal-iaq.org/.

■ **Asbestos.** Check the federal Environmental Protection Agency's Web page, www.epa.gov/asbestos. Or call 415-744-1500.

■ **"Architectural Resource Guide,"** published by Architects/Designers/Planners for Social Responsibility, Northern California chapter. 510-273-2428. P.O. Box 9126, Berkeley,

94709. A comprehensive environmental resources, services from around the group is a nonprofit that provides information to design professionals public on environmental issues. Lectures on building monthly in San Francisco.

■ **"Consumer Guide Energy Savings,"** published by the American Council for an Efficient Economy, contains ratings of energy efficiency. 202-429-0063. Web site: www.acee.org.

■ **The Ecology Center.** A bookstore and resource center providing information and materials on various environmental issues. 415-863-1100.

■ **Energy.** PG&E is a source of information to help home energy efficient. PG&E Smart Home: 800-474-3400. Smarter Energy Line: 800-474-3400. www.pge.com/saving/.

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New Listing!

3501 Richmond Boulevard
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Ed Kuo
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Cell: 510.919.0707
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Dee & Joe Knowland

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Dick Cohen

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3159 LEWISTON. New Elmwood listing! Spacious 4+BD/2+BA w/updated kitchen, sunporch, studio.
Sandi Klemmer

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OAKMORE.....\$399,000
20 BRENTWOOD PL. New listing!
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Robyn Mohr

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MONTCLAIR.....\$759,000
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Wendy Gardner

OAKLAND.....\$279,000
Fully rented 6-plex, all 1BD/1BA units. Between 35th Ave. & High St. Price is "as is." Tom Wurst

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PIEDMONT.....\$12,000/mo.
Magnificent estate property. 7+RD/7+BA, beautiful grounds, pool, partially furnished.
Georgia Cornell

For Lease

OAKLAND HILLS.....\$2,750/mo
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Adriana Giacomelli

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OAKLAND HILLS.....\$1,550,000
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COMING ATTRACTION
NORTH BERKELEY 1930 SPANISH COLON designed by Edwin Lewis Snyder. Tiled roof, brick courtyard, grand living room w/vaulted ceiling & square parquet floors, French doors to patio.
Tricia Swift ext. 140

COMING ATTRACTION
Berkeley Rose Garden Neighborhood! Walk to UC, shops, & coffee from this comfortable 4+ bedroom, 3 bath home. Level-in; Bay views.
Tricia Swift ext. 140 \$585,000

COMING ATTRACTION
720 EUCLID AVE. This splendid vacant lot provides a large level building pad, easy access and Bay Views location for swift transportation. Bebe McRae ext. 145.....

OAKLAND

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Bebe McRae ext. 145, Nancy Lee Noran ext. 124.....\$850,000

3100 BIRDSALL AVE. • 1ST OPEN SUN. 2-4. MAXWELL PARK Delightful 2BR, hardwood floors, built-in fireplace. Leslie Easterday ext. 134.....\$200,000

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91 CASTLE CREST • OPEN SUN 1:30-4:30
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Resources

PAGE B4

EPA. The federal Environmental Protection Agency has an online variety of accurate and presented information on-line at www.epa.gov/insidest.html.

"The Inside Story: A Guide to Air Quality," published by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency in English and Spanish, is a clear and thorough guide, with links to many other agencies, organizations and Web sites. Call 800-818-1818, or check the Web, www.epa.gov/insidest.html.

EPA also runs the Indoor Air Quality Information Clearinghouse, which makes available many resources and advisories about carbon monoxide, radon, asbestos, lead, and other environmental hazards. Call 800-438-4318.

The Healthy House Institute, 1000 North Sewell Road, Bloomington, Indiana, 47408. 812-332-2222. Web site: www.hhiinst.com. Car books by John and Lynn Marie are about creating a healthy

Household hazardous materials. For information call your department of health. Contra Costa County: 925-646-2286. Solano: 707-765-6462. Alameda: 510-567-6855. Lead, call the National Lead Poisoning Center and Clearing-

house at 800-424-LEAD or 800-LEAD-FYI. (www.epa.gov/lead/nlic.htm), or the Contra Costa Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, 510-374-3481. Alameda County, call 510-567-8280; Solano County, 707-421-6765.

■ **Lung Association.** The American Lung Association provides a wealth of information on its Web site, www.lungusa.org, ranging from general tips to detailed information about air cleaning devices. 1-800-LUNG-USA.

■ **"The New Natural House Book,"** \$22, and "The Natural House Catalog," \$23, both by David Pearson and published by Simon & Schuster, are useful, beautifully illustrated guides to every aspect of natural design. Although they include some questionable information (for example, suggesting that electromagnetic fields cause disease, although scientists are far from convinced), the books provide thorough information about the construction of plywood, how a rammed earth home is built, what linoleum is made from, etc.

■ **Quack watch.** The National Council Against Health Fraud (aka The National Council for Reliable Health Information) has its own Web site, www.ncahf.org, and recommends a Web site run by Dr. Stephen Barrett, www.quackwatch.com. The sites include articles by doctors and scientists on such topics as multiple chemical sensitivity and power lines and cancer.

Environmental design, construction

■ **Arkin Tilt Architects.** 1062 Stannage Ave. Albany, 510-528-9830
 ■ **Dan Smith & Associates.** 1107 Virginia St., Berkeley. 510-526-1935.
 ■ **SYMBIOS Eco Design and Construction.** Kevin Falkerson. 2211 Joy Road, Bodega. 707-874-9015.
 ■ **Wanaselja Architecture** 2792 Shasta Road, Berkeley. 510-848-8901

Great salvage, used lumber

■ **A Bygone Era.** 653 Fifth St., Oakland. 510-444-5209. Cabinetry, clawfoot tubs, doors, windows.
 ■ **Berkeley Architectural Salvage.** 1167 65th St., Oakland. 510-655-2270. Large collection of unused hardware dating to the turn-of-the-century, sizable selection of spindles, towering 24-foot pillars. Carries originals.
 ■ **Beyond Waste.** 607 W. Sierra, Cotati. 707-792-2555. Manufactures and sells flooring made from old-growth Douglas fir rafters; custom makes flooring or paneling; carries entire sets of home windows in case-ments, including Victorian double-hung windows. Web site: www.sonic.net/~precycle
 ■ **C & K Salvage.** Oakland. 718 Douglas Ave., Oakland. 510-569-2070. Primarily lumber, large and large timber, some siding, flooring, bricks, doors, and plumbing. Remills lumber. Remilling of clear heart red-

wood beams; maple flooring from a skating rink, long sections of bowling alley lanes. Douglas fir flooring.

■ **Caldwell Building Wreckers.** 195 Bayshore Blvd., San Francisco. 415-550-6777. Eastlake Victorian pocket doors, certified Italian beveled glass windows from the Winchester Mystery House, old-growth lumber, antique pedestal sinks.
 ■ **Crossroads Recycled Lumber.** P. O. Box 184, O'Neals, CA, 93645. 209-868-3646. Specializes in resawn timbers and remanufactured flooring. Recycled lumber from buildings, bridges, and railroad lines.

■ **Ohmega Salvage.** 2407 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-7368. Quality tables, bed frames, chairs, cabinets, nightstands, clawfoot bathtubs, lighting fixtures, architectural building materials including columns, moldings, and marble.

■ **Ohmega General Store.** 2400 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-204-0767. Sister store of Ohmega Salvage, this showroom features lighting fixtures on display. Chandeliers, wall sconces, multi-light fixtures, deco designs, even gas light fixtures transformed to run on electricity. All fixtures are re-wired.

■ **Ohmega Too.** 2204 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-843-3636. Yet another Ohmega location. Architectural embellishments for the older home. Antique lighting, plumbing, doors, windows, and garden ornaments.

■ **Gilman Salvage.** 808 Gilman

St., Berkeley. 510-524-5500. A 9,000-foot warehouse features finds such as birds-eye maple furniture pieces from England, cabinets, dressers, armoires, vanities, chairs, lighting fixtures and furniture from restaurants. The 7,000-foot outdoor yard has reclaimed building materials such as hand-glazed tile, statuary, marble, and lawn and garden items.

■ **Savvy Salvage.** 4385 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. 510-655-8877. Lots of garden ornaments and architectural elements. Mushroom-shaped granite staddle stones from England, 9-foot tall Victorian pilasters, columns, metalwork, garden furniture, urns.

■ **This & That.** 1701 Rumliff Blvd., San Pablo. 510-232-1273. Approximately 40,000-square feet of recycled materials, including bi-fold and louver doors, wrought iron, fireplaces, door moldings, windows, sinks, granite, marble, and brick building materials.

Natural products

■ **E-Spec.** 4723 Tidewater Ave., Suite 1, Oakland. 510-536-2600. Manufacturers representative for environmental architectural finish and

landscape products

■ **Non-Toxic Hot Line.** 3441 Golden Rain, #3, Walnut Creek. 925-472-8868. Web site is www.non-toxic.com. Low toxic sealants and insulation, air and water purifiers, mail order.

■ **Real Goods Trading Corp.** 1324 10th St., Berkeley. 510-558-0700. Solar-powered products, air and water filters, environmental home books, ecological bedding, lighting products, and more. Web site: www.realgoods.com. Their nearby outlet store carries discontinued items. Catalog sales also, 800-762-7325.

Consultants, testing services

■ **Berkeley Analytical Associates Laboratory.** Richmond. 510-236-2325. Testing of carpet and upholstery emissions and indoor air quality analysis.

■ **David Kibbey,** Environmental Building Consultant. 1618 Parker St., Berkeley. 510-841-1039. Consultations regarding building materials and systems for environmentally-conscious consumers.

— Lynn Kruman Lindstrom



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OPEN SUN 12-2 - 1220 DERBY - NEAR FRUITVALE BART STATION. Corner of E 12th & Derby. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, includes 2 additional lots - \$250,000. Eddie Fagrey, 301-1010 pager 291-9401.

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Selling a home every 24 hours. How quickly would you like to move?

Sort out cast of characters in home transaction 'circus'

Every real estate transaction is a real production. At times it seems as if there is a cast of thousands involved. Each of the players has a job to do, and if anyone slips on the tightrope in the middle of a performance, the whole show can collapse.

It's even worse when a purchase money loan is involved, as both the property owner and the borrowers must qualify.

Just consider: in addition to the buyers and the sellers, there are the buyers' and sellers' real estate agents, the mortgage broker and the mortgage lender, the escrow and title officers, the property appraiser,

Mortgage Madness



By Karen Senzig

"The important thing is to have good communication with your main coordinators..."

home and pest control inspectors and more. The mortgage lender has its own

set of performers, from the loan officer responsible for taking the information from the borrowers and presenting (or packaging it) to the underwriter.

The underwriter reviews the loan package looking that the borrowers comply with the lender's guidelines, always looking for that perfect borrower (who really doesn't need the loan).

Once the underwriter approves the borrower, he or she notifies the loan officer of the conditions that need to be met before the loan can go to loan documents. Most often this involves getting additional verification of employment or account

deposits and property issues such as termite report work completion or clarifications on the property appraisal.

Let's add your employer and your bank manager to the cast. Once all the conditions have been signed off by the underwriter, the loan will be passed on to the loan document drawer who sends it to the escrow officer who calls in the buyers to sign the documents.

Most escrow officers are notaries, but if not, add the notary to the list. The escrow officer then sends the loan package to the lender's funder who after reviewing the loan package and any remaining funding con-

ditions will authorize the lender to wire the funds to escrow.

But we are not finished yet. Once escrow/title has all the funds to close the transaction the loan must be recorded at the county courthouse. Every title company has an employee whose job is to stand in line with all the other title company employees to record the day's transactions closings.

If you were to count everyone involved in closing your purchase transaction you'd need all your fingers and all your toes, and you would still be short of digits.

The important thing is to have good communication with your main

coordinators, usually buyer's real estate agent, mortgage broker so the glitches happen, the problem right away rather than wondering why and where the problem opened.

It may be a circus, but together in the end.

Karen Senzig is co-owner of Clair Mortgage with her husband, Scott. She can be reached at 339-8511; fax 510-339-8511; email ksenzig@aol.com. She can be reached with any mortgage questions and/or topics.

401(k) plan offers novel home loan

IF YOU ARE ONE of the millions of Americans with a 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, you may soon be able to finance your next — or first — house with no down payment.

Using a novel mortgage-lending concept available solely to workers in firms that provide retirement plans, employees will be able to obtain 100 percent loans up to \$350,000. They will not have to borrow against or pledge their retirement fund balances as collateral for the home mortgage.

Known as MAP100, or Mortgage Acceptance Plan, the new funding concept is aimed primarily at workers who can afford the monthly payments on a house, but either cannot or choose not to come up with the minimum down payment required for a conventional home mortgage.

The program is expected to become available to participants in many of the 320,000 company 401(k) plans nationwide during the first half of 2000. Some corporate retirement-plan sponsors working with the Boston-based investment management firm Scudder Kemper Retirement Services are expected to introduce the plan.

More than average

The new loan concept won't appeal to everyone. For starters, it will cost more than a conventional loan with a 10 percent to 20 percent down payment. Fixed-rate, 30-year MAP loans were priced at 8.5 percent with one point (1 percent of the mortgage amount) as of Dec. 15.

Conventional loans up to \$252,700, by comparison, were 8 percent and .84 of a point, according to HSH Associates, a national service that monitors rates at more than 2,000 mortgage lenders.

MAP loan underwriting is also

The Nation's Housing



By Kenneth Harney

"Even the employee doesn't do well when he or she taps a retirement plan to buy a house."

slightly tougher than some conventional loans. The program looks for marginally higher credit quality than do lenders selling loans to Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, the two largest providers of mortgage money.

A final restriction: Your company-sponsored 401(k) or other retirement plan must permit you to borrow money from your plan — an estimated 80 percent of all 401(k) plans do — in order for you to be eligible for a MAP100 loan.

Why target a nothing-down mortgage solely to 401(k) plans if, as MAP sponsors insist, they will have no right to go after borrowers' retirement balances in the event of a foreclosure? The answer to that question lays bare what makes the MAP concept intriguing.

What's the deal?

On the one hand, MAP100 is intended to produce large volumes of relatively high-credit-quality profitable home loans at premium rates. Barry Kaye, MAP product manager for Chambers, Dunhill, Rubin & Co., the California-based investment bank that designed it, estimates that more than half a billion dollars worth of MAP100 mortgages will be originated in the first 12 months alone.

But a more subtle purpose of the program serves the interests of the

people who will be directly marketing it — corporate employers and the big money-management firms who invest 401(k) plan dollars in stocks and mutual funds. Neither benefits when employees borrow from their 401(k) funds to buy a house. The investment company earns less on the employee's managing for the employer. And the employer has to spend staff time and money tracking the loans — and repayments — from employee 401(k) borrowing.

Even the employee doesn't do well when he or she taps a retirement plan to help buy a house. If the fund is earning 20 percent to 30 percent annually from its stock holdings, for example, an employee who pulls out money stops earning those big returns. Instead, the employee usually is required to pay the money back at an interest rate that doesn't come close to the foregone stock market rate of return.

Moreover, the repayments to the plan are with after-tax dollars. When the employee later withdraws the funds at retirement, he or she will be taxed again — creating an effective double federal taxation on the loan.

There's still another drawback to 401(k) borrowings for house purchases: If you leave the company for any reason, the retirement plan typically requires you to pay back what you borrowed within 30 to 90 days of departure — very difficult for most workers.

Stripped to its core, MAP100 is a concept not only designed to encourage house buying but also to discourage borrowings from 401(k) plans. The program creates an alternative intended to cost less than plan borrowings, but more than a typical low-down payment mortgage.

See HARNEY, Page B18

A little planning can turn renters into buyers in 2000

■ Recipe for success: Get your buying team together, watch your spending and pay off those credit cards

MICHAEL DeROSE proved that a young person can move rapidly from renter-ship to homeownership. As a single man of 23, he bought a small Cape Cod-style house. At age 26 he married and traded up to a more upscale condo-apartment. Two years later, DeRose and his wife had amassed enough equity to buy a prized four-bedroom house in a prime suburb.

"Michael had a strategy and he stuck by it, one goal at a time," recalls Concenzio DeRose, Michael's father. Both father and son know that renters struggle for a seat on the homeownership train. They, plus two of Michael's brothers, are top-selling agents for the Re/Max chain.

"Buying your first home is always a team effort," says the elder DeRose. As a former captain for the local fire department, he's convinced that little is accomplished in life without teamwork. That's why he advises would-be buyers to begin by seeking out at least two professionals to cheer them through the process.

Many young people benefit from the backing of both a patient real estate agent and a tenacious mortgage lender. "If an agent is worth his salt, he'll tell a renter about two or three good lenders," the elder DeRose says.

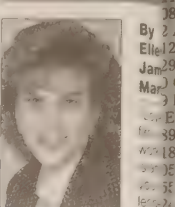
Build a team

Why should a first-time buyer lay the groundwork for purchase plans with the help of a lender who is familiar to his agent? Because that way the agent and lender are more likely to work harmoniously to advance the buyer's goal.

Loyalty to the first lender who works with you is admirable. But you can change lenders later if a much better interest rate is available elsewhere, and your first lender won't match it.

After all, the difference could

Smart 3's



See PLANNING, Page B18

By Appointment



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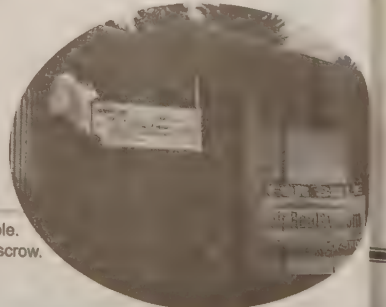


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 12 Bayview Dr - \$375,000
 07 Cambridge Dr - \$295,000
 06 Ave R - \$445,000
 01 Eastmore Dr - \$635,000
 05 Cl - \$399,000
 11 Lemble Bl - \$350,000
 04 Marl Rae Ct - \$109,500
 01 Cl - \$359,000
 02 Cl - \$400,000
 07 Pacific Av - \$235,000
 01 Pacific Av - \$275,000
 05 Pos St - \$301,000
 07 Santa Clara Av - \$251,000
 11 Santa Clara Av - \$329,500
 01 Stone Harbor - \$520,000
 00 Sweet Rd - \$679,000
 01 Yal Dr - \$520,000
 02 Yorkshire Pl - \$300,000

ALBANY

126 Brighton Av - \$130,000
 37 Cutis St - \$310,000
 03 Santa Fe Av - \$305,000
 06 Santa Fe Av - \$360,000

WEEKLY

11 8h St - \$427,500
 08 deatraz Av - \$150,000
 12 Alvarado Rd - \$950,000
 12 Levery Pl - \$367,000
 09 Farleton St - \$220,000
 02 Geston Rd - \$450,000
 05 Ensenada Av - \$435,000
 08 Eucalyptus Rd - \$510,000
 09 Euclid Av - \$562,000
 18 Garber St - \$725,000
 05 Glendale Av - \$385,000
 05 Lewiston Av - \$431,000
 02 Mariposa Av - \$735,000
 05 Peralta Av - \$280,000
 04 Russell St - \$730,000
 01 Spaulding Av - \$291,000
 07 Sterling Av - \$410,000
 01 Vermont Av - \$503,000
 04 Virginia St #7 - \$254,000

RICHMOND

09 Arlington Bl - \$460,000
 01 Ashbury Av - \$228,000
 03 Glen Mawr Av - \$330,000
 05 Norvell St - \$344,000
 01 Richmond St - \$231,000

SOBRANTE

01 Diane Dr - \$205,500
 05 Glenwood Ct - \$375,000

KENSINGTON

18 Ardmore Rd - \$330,000

OAKLAND

1801 104th Av - \$148,000
 2001 105th Av - \$150,000
 2519 23rd Av - \$189,000
 3091 23rd Av - \$185,000
 1542 27th Av - \$130,000
 702 33rd St - \$114,000
 3679 38th Av - \$169,500
 392 50th St - \$259,000
 813 57th St - \$188,000
 2563 62nd Av - \$100,000
 626 63rd St - \$251,000
 2130 64th Av - \$83,000
 2237 64th Av - \$139,000
 1422 70th Av - \$87,000
 2612 75th Av - \$95,000
 1236 76th Av - \$80,500
 1146 78th Av - \$122,000
 2672 78th Av - \$131,000
 1237 80th Av - \$93,000
 1660 81st Av - \$142,500
 1205 82nd Av - \$112,000
 1339 90th Av - \$105,000
 2105 92nd Av - \$165,000
 1233 93rd Av - \$301,000
 4218 Aberfoil Av - \$95,000
 5916 Alhambra Av - \$380,000
 3932 Altamont Av - \$140,000
 51 Anair Wy - \$190,000
 1106 Ashmount Av - \$720,000
 2108 Ashmont Wy - \$653,500
 2098 Asilomar Dr - \$400,000
 4737 Badger Ct - \$330,000
 4743 Belfast Av - \$373,000
 5340 Broadway Tr - \$310,000
 5378 Broadway - \$334,000
 3873 Brown Av - \$309,000
 9233 C St - \$90,000
 240 Caldecott Ln #166 - \$282,000
 260 Caldecott Ln #221 - \$200,000
 300 Caldecott Ln #310 - \$190,000
 2614 Camino Lenada - \$320,000
 700 Canyon Oaks Dr #B - \$122,500
 834 Carlston Av - \$556,000
 6852 Chambers Dr - \$355,000
 1520 Commerce Wy - \$75,000
 440 Douglas Av - \$80,000
 1385 East 33rd St - \$120,000
 2807 Eastman Av - \$182,000
 3914 Enos Av - \$255,000
 4683 Fair Av - \$308,000
 3147 Filbert St - \$132,000
 763 Franklin St #222 - \$138,000
 801 Franklin St - \$179,000
 432 Ghormley Av - \$129,000
 9959 Gibraltar Rd - \$97,000
 217 Gravatt Dr - \$900,000

7614 Greenly Dr - \$168,000
 827 Grosvenor Pl - \$500,000
 6269 Hayes St - \$144,000
 7427 Holly St - \$130,000
 2738 Humboldt Av - \$179,000
 3239 Hyde St - \$125,000
 2438 Kingsland Av - \$197,000
 1 Kingsland Pl - \$255,000
 4269 Knoll Av - \$240,000
 427 Lagunitas Av #106 - \$95,000
 3450 Laurel Av - \$125,000
 3616 Laurel Av - \$120,000
 9841 Lawlor St - \$159,000
 5140 Lawton Av - \$379,000
 1656 MacArthur Bl - \$182,000
 814 MacArthur Bl - \$235,000
 7941 Michigan Av - \$241,500
 245 Montecito Av #17 - \$179,500
 5878 Moraga Av - \$359,000
 5715 Morse Dr - \$151,000
 9824 Olive St - \$157,500
 425 Orange St #117 - \$89,000
 6906 Outlook Av - \$164,500
 6911 Pinehaven Rd - \$399,000
 10751 Pippin St - \$87,500
 5209 Proctor Av - \$487,000
 42 Randwick Av - \$285,000
 3018 Rawson St - \$247,000
 3567 Redwood Rd - \$398,000
 11018 Redondo Dr - \$80,000
 59 Schooner Hill - \$495,000
 3750 Suter St - \$116,000
 1121 Trestle Glen Rd - \$315,000
 1633 Trestle Glen Rd - \$536,000
 2582 Truman Av - \$196,000
 85 Vernon St #310 - \$109,000
 941 Warfield Av - \$384,000
 5959 Westover Dr - \$475,000
 3114 Wisconsin St - \$290,000
 16 Yankee Hill - \$578,000

FIDMONT

34 Calvert Ct - \$631,000

82 Dudley Av - \$665,000
 94 King Av - \$1,500,000
 106 Maxwellton Rd - \$910,000
 29 Sierra Av - \$2,275,000

RICHMOND

528 27th St - \$110,000
 667 33rd St - \$217,000
 858 37th St - \$190,000
 455 39th St - \$152,000
 1636 3rd St - \$124,000
 1829 6th St - \$107,000
 3255 Andrade Av - \$173,500
 6255 Arlington Bl - \$285,000
 1070 Balmore Ct - \$298,000
 2985 Brook Wy - \$140,000
 1540 Bush Av - \$121,000
 2301 Carlson Bl - \$231,000
 3519 Center Av - \$109,000
 3737 Center Av - \$115,000
 2537 Chanslor Av - \$149,000
 3311 Clinton Av - \$174,000
 1537 Coalinga Av - \$108,000
 5630 Columbia Av - \$155,000
 31 Denise Dr - \$113,500
 1519 Dover Av - \$118,000
 505 Echo Hawk Ct - \$290,000
 3477 Fleetwood Dr - \$246,000
 407 Golden Gate Av - \$294,000
 1914 Holdings Av - \$148,000
 2000 Hoffman Bl - \$156,000
 1296 Karen Rd - \$110,000
 2654 Kavanagh Rd - \$185,000
 505 Kay Ann Ct - \$212,000
 4500 McLaughlin Wy - \$82,000
 966 McLaughlin St - \$155,000
 2658 Meadowcrest Ct - \$259,000
 2715 Moyers Rd - \$180,000
 139 Murdock St - \$155,000
 215 Murdock St - \$147,000
 3480 Ridgewood Wy - \$320,000
 1306 Sanderling Is - \$525,000
 29 Sheffield Ct - \$88,500

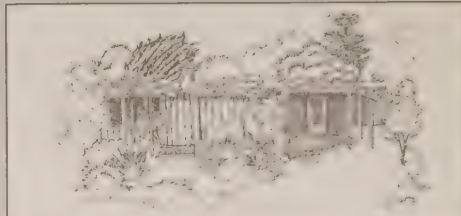
660 South 15th St - \$82,500
 3042 Stephen Dr - \$273,000
 3732 Stoneglen #2 - \$128,000
 704 Thomas Dr - \$137,500
 5248 Valley View Rd - \$220,000
 1018 Ventura St - \$145,000
 1053 Ventura St - \$86,000

SAN LEANDRO

1615 137th Av - \$210,000
 2225 Aquatic Cr - \$350,000
 2251 Avocat Ct #75 - \$290,000
 432 Beverly Av - \$285,000
 1493 Burkhardt Av - \$259,000
 1400 Carpenter St #331 - \$130,000

371 Leo Av - \$210,000
 592 Lewis Av - \$180,000
 1003 Manor Bl - \$208,000

This list was compiled for publication in Hills Newspapers by TitleTech, an Oakland real estate information company, which obtains weekly records from the county recorder's office. Neither company guarantees the accuracy or completeness of the information. Sales prices are based upon applicable county transfer taxes. Questions? Call 510-568-7233.

MARVIN GARDENS
REAL ESTATEVisit our website at www.marvingardens.com

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!.....\$250,000.

This 3br/2ba retreat on a quiet cul-de-sac needs a significant amount of work. Great location and a huge lot! A magical garden filled with secret places and a variety of established trees, flowers and succulents
Open Sun 2-4, 11 Jessen Ct, Kensington
Todd Hodson 527-1111, 559-2915



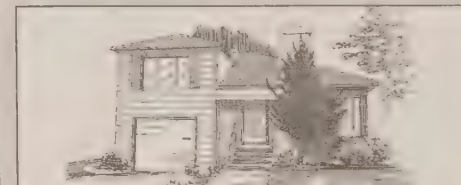
ATTENTION GARDENERS!.....\$329,000.

Beautiful, large three bedroom, two bath bungalow with an incredible 200' deep back yard... must be seen to be believed! Possible au pair unit downstairs with separate entrance and kitchen. Spacious rooms, fireplace, formal dining room. For more information call
David Ratoosh 527-2700 x44



LARGE DUPLEX IN FABULOUS LOCATION.....\$319,000.

"As-Is" Lots of deferred maintenance, but worth the effort! Two 2 bedroom, 1 bath units. Walk to absolutely everything!
David Ratoosh 527-2700 x44



GREAT EL CERRITO LOCATION!.....\$349,000.

Wonderful three bedroom, two bath split level home in the best location! Living room and family room both have fireplaces, formal dining room, bonus room. Random plank hardwood floors. Newer roof, heating, seismic retrofit. Walk to Fatapples restaurant, schools. BART
Open Sun 2-4:30, 7424 Rockway Ave., El Cerrito
For More Information call Richard Morrison 527-2700 x32



ATTRACTIVE & APPEALING.....\$499,000.

Six unusually spacious units in the Laurel District of Oakland. Two 3 bedroom & four 2 bedroom apartments, one with balcony, one with private garden. Charming common garden area. Very nice atmosphere.
Terry Pedersen 527-2700 x36

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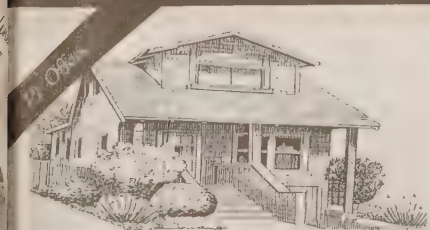
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I.E. BROKER - CA. DEPT OF R.E. 916-227-0931

SOLD SOLD SOLD



5454 Boyd Avenue, Rockridge

Mavis Delacroix successfully represented the buyers of this charming brown shingle, three bedroom, two bath Rockridge home. Looking for a home? Give Mavis a call. Offered at \$425,000
 Mavis Delacroix
 Office 339.0400/205
 Home 518.658.6332
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Properties

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 and Desk Fee Agents.



809 San Carlos Avenue, Albany



\$459,000

Charming three bedroom home with hardwood floors,
 formal dining room, living room with fireplace,
 sunny kitchen, private deck and garden. Partial
 basement and double garage.

Michael L. McNamara 510-524-3333 x313
 1345 Martin Luther King Jr. Way • Berkeley, CA 94709

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Real Estate Brokerage3223 Blume Drive, Richmond
510-222-8870<http://www.spre.com>

EL CERRITO

FABULOUS DUPLEX NEAR PLAZA & BART.....\$419,000

Lovely and large duplex total square footage almost 1900 Sq.Ft., each unit has its own laundry facility and garage. Rear unit has an updated kitchen & is currently vacant. Call now! #99044131
 Margrith Byer (510) 222-8870

RICHMOND VIEW

COZY HOME WITH A VIEW!.....\$175,000

2BR 1BA, Home to 920 Sq.Ft., carport, large level backyard with fruit trees and view! #99044291
 Sian Yap (510) 662-8467

NEW LISTING/SUPER BUNGALOW.....\$185,000

2BR 1BA home approx. 1225 Sq. Ft., w/bonus room. Formal dining room, large kitchen with charm! #00004185 Gary Torretta (510) 222-8870

CUSTOM HOME NEAR WILDCAT CANYON.....\$258,988

3BR 1BA home 1400 Sq. Ft., 1 car att garage w/int. access, BAY view, fenced yard, central heat, comp shingle roof, deluxe kitchen, newly finished oak hardwood flrs, dream garden. #99045171
 (510) 662-8528

EL SOBRANTE

WONDERFUL HOME ON OVER ACRE LOT.....\$250,000

3 BR, 2.5 BA w/family room. New paint, carpet, roof, windows, retaining wall & patio. Updated kitchen & baths. #99037732
 Ed Messner (510) 222-8870

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DESIGN TRENDS



Window tricks

WINDOWS TODAY COME IN EVERY SIZE and shape imaginable, and a well-designed picture window can make the entire room come to life. In this window arrangement, the fixed glass has a graceful arched top that creates a focal point. Flanking rectangular windows add appeal. Operable windows are located below for airflow, but are intentionally set at couch height so the view is not obstructed by too many wood joints. Another window trend in home design is to use stairwells to the outdoors and make the stairs a part of the feeling of the room, instead of enclosing them with walls. In this design, the stairs lead down to a lower level, which can be a door below if noise is a concern. By combining the operable windows with this living area, the entire room feels bigger without unnecessary square footage, and the windows all work together for impact on arriving guests.

HOMESTYLES/ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO

Survey: Fear of Fed triggers high long-term rates

McLEAN, VA — In Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage (FRM) averaged 8.15 percent, with an average 1.0 point, for the week ending January 7, 2000, up from last week's average of 8.06 percent; a year ago, the 30-year FRM average was 6.79 percent.

The 30-year FRM has not been higher since the week ending April 18, 1997, when it was 8.16 percent, with 1.7 points.

The average for 15-year FRMs jumped up as well, to 7.73 percent this week, with an average 1.0 point, from last week's average of 7.66 percent. A year ago, the 15-year FRM averaged 6.43 percent. The 15-year FRM has not been higher since the week ending September 13, 1996, when it averaged 7.81.

The rate for 1-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 6.60 percent this week, with an average 1.0 point, compared to last week's average of

6.56 percent. A year ago, the 1-year ARM averaged 5.61 percent.

(Average commitment rates should be reported along with average fees and points to reflect the total cost of obtaining the mortgage.)

"Fear that the Federal Reserve will substantially raise rates at its next meeting in February has caused interest rates to rise for the eighth consecutive week," said Robert Van Order, chief economist for Freddie Mac. "Although we still have some economic indicators coming out that may sway the market one way or the other, however, the primary factor influencing future mortgage rates will be the Fed's decision next month."

— Freddie Mac

Freddie Mac is a stockholder-owned corporation chartered by Congress in 1970 to create a continuous flow of funds to mortgage lenders, and two million renters.

Open - Sunday 2-4:30 pm

**3 Bedroom
1 Bath
Split Level**

**1111 Shattuck Ave.
North Berkeley**

Charming Mediterranean in pristine condition. Beautifully remodeled kitchen & bathroom with Corian counters and tile floors. Bay window in kitchen and Palladium windows in living room. Glass-block wall in bathroom. Hardwood floors throughout. Updated plumbing, electrical, & seismic upgrade. Basement with laundry and workshop. Landscaped front & rear yards with deck in back. Attached garage. Walk to gourmet ghetto and Live Oak Park.

Offered at \$435,000

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Marienthal
510-981-3036**

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**1495 Shattuck Ave.
Berkeley**

Northbrae

Sunny & Spacious, Near Berkeley Rose Garden! Brimming with possibilities, this 4 bedroom home is walking distance from a wonderful selection of shops, restaurants, and the Berkeley Rose Garden. A few delightful details include a formal entry, spacious living room, dining room, traditional fireplace, big kitchen and ground floor. Upstairs are four full bedrooms and the second bath. Large windows on main level insure bright and sunny living spaces. There is a lot to love here! 4BD/2BA. Offered at \$429,000.

Anita Thede • Claude Delabert • Maryann Hill
Al Jamieson • Gail Craine

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Coldwell Banker

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1st OPEN

4638 GERANIUM PL. \$329,000
Redwood Heights - It's a dream! Beautiful light-filled rms, hwd flrs, FP, family room & big yd for play & garden. 3BD/1+BA. Open 2-4:30 p.m. **Phyllis Wherry**

1st OPEN

2324 PELHAM PL. \$399,000
Montclair - Nice bay view. Charming and rustic. 2+BD/2BA. Formal dining, frpl, sep. space for home office / workshop. Flexible floor plan. **Nancy Dickey**

BY APPOINTMENT

MONTCLAIR \$499,000
Spacious Contemporary. 3 levels of comfortable living space. 4+BD/3.5BA. Soaring ceilings. Lots of light. **Nancy Dickey**

MONTCLAIR \$495,000
Builder Opportunity. Visionaries welcome! Small house on BIG piece of land. 1.70+- acre parcel - 4 lots. May be divided or built. **Donna Conroy**

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PIEDMONT \$525,000
3BD/2BA with charming living room, spacious kitchen / Family room, deck, yard & playhouse for storage or hobbies. **Dian Hymer**

2135 MASTLANDS \$335,000
Montclair - Creekside Cutie. Enjoy the sense of privacy from this tidy 2BD/2BA home. Nestled in the woods, huge lot & great location. Open 2 - 5 p.m. **Terry Kulka**

CHINA HILL \$239,000
Old Victorian that has been redone. New paint, floor & kitchen. New bath too! 2BD/2BA. **Lani Dy**

PILL HILL \$219,000
Victorian Charm. A 3+BD Queen Anne. Currently used as a duplex. Original detail, updated kit. & bath. Beautiful yd. Bargain price! **Fritz Hochstetler**

UPPER DIMOND \$199,000
Enchanting 1BD garden cottage, wood flrs, cheerful kit, captivating landscaped front & back yards. **Vicky Faulk**

OAKLAND \$175,000
Spacious home. 3BD/2BA w/ built-ins in living rm. KdJdn. combo, large 3rd BD. Rooms & 1BD below. Nice yard, 1 car garage. **Elena Stone**

MONTCLAIR \$82,500
Montclair lot. Great Opportunity to place spectacular home in desirable neighborhood. **David Eckert**

COLDWELL BANKER

PREVIEWS

EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTIES

CUSTOM MASTERPIECE \$1,750,000
Located on an approx. 34 acre bluff overlooking a 4000 ft. long bay. Views of the bay, city, and the mountains. Master suite, 5 bedrooms, 4 baths. Call for details. **George Karam**

By Appointment

Inventory is at an all time low. If you have been thinking of selling, call for a consultation on the value of your home, & strategies on maximizing your equity.

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By Appointment

BAY VIEWS FROM NORTH BERKELEY \$569,000
Gracious Berkeley hills Mediterranean with Bay Views from 2 floors 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, formal dining, & hardwood floors, yard & patio, plus garage. Walk to UC, shops and restaurants.

PRISTINE NORTH BERKELEY MEDITERRANEAN.....
JUST LISTED! A charmer in top location. 3BR, remodeled kit. & bath w/ Corian counters & tile. Bay & Palladium windows, hardwood flrs, car frt & rear yds plus dec. Basement w/ laundry shop & att. gar. Walk to gourmet ghetto, L.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

1111 SHATTUCK, BERKELEY \$435,000
Remodeled 3 BR/1BA Mediterranean. **Kim Marienthal**

1511 MARTIN LUTHER KING \$425,000
Rehabbed 5 BR/BA Victorian. **Lorri Arazi**

BEAUTIFULLY REDONE NORTH BERKELEY VICTORIAN \$425,000
JUST LISTED! Just blocks from the Gourmet Ghetto! 5BR/3BA beauty w/modern systems & vintage style, & formal dining. Master suite w/French doors that open. Deck off remodeled kitchen.

VIEWS FROM THE JACUZZI \$389,000
Soak in the luxury of this private, beautifully remodeled home in the El Cerrito hills. 3 BR, 2 BA, beautiful family room plus a solarium, & deck and loads of other fine, custom details including double paneled picture windows!

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Gypsum all washed up — Think mortarboard for shower

WHEN WE WERE carpenter apprentices, we saw many homes being built with tile showers where the tile was glued directly to the wallboard. Before we had only seen tile installed over a layer of mortar. Mortar installations were difficult to do and expensive. We were convinced that a new mortarless installation was a better simple process. We decided that if we were ever to build a shower, we would do it without mortar.

When we ever wrong. As we learned more about home building, we discovered that gluing tile to gypsum wallboard — even the green, water-resistant kind — was a bad idea. In fact, gluing tile to any kind of gypsum was a form of planned shower-wall obsolescence. As we advanced from carpentry to customer service, it became obvious that mortarless tile installations were partially or completely failing within three to five years after installation. Not an acceptable life span.

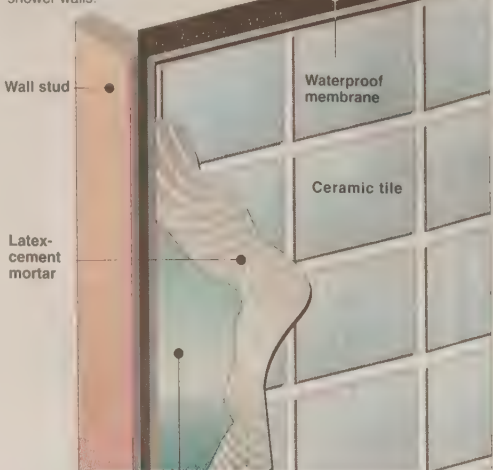
Here's what we learned: Grout, which is supposed to create a watertight seal between tiles, often cracks. When this happens, the surface loses its ability to act as a water seal. Even tiny, almost invisible cracks are big enough to let water through. The moment water gets behind the tile, it comes into contact with the wallboard and, via capillary action, is completely absorbed. The absorbed moisture begins to break down the wallboard until it finally becomes soft enough to push a hand through. Tiles fall, cracks get bigger, and in no time your once-beautiful shower begins to crumble.

This problem of mortarless showers falling apart became so pronounced during the late '70s and early '80s that many building departments outlawed the technique. The new laws had a profound impact on the cost of a typical tile-shower installation.

Suddenly there was a resurgence in

Cement backer board

Water-resistant drywall, a much cheaper and faster product to install than a mortar bed, is widely adopted for use on bathroom and shower walls.



1/2-Inch cement board
Cement backer board is an excellent tile base, especially for persistently wet areas. It combines the convenience of drywall with the durability of a real cement mortar bed.

popularity among nontile alternatives such as Corian and cultured marble. Tile sales decreased.

Then someone came up with the bright notion that there was a need for a wallboard product that really was waterproof. Not just water-resistant, but fully water-tolerant. Industry experts already knew that cement and sand made a perfect combination for waterproofing behind tile. First, a layer of asphalt-impregnated building paper is installed, then the mortar, then the adhesive, and finally the tile and grout. Grout cracks in this configura-

tion don't cause problems because the mortarboard is not easily damaged by moisture.

So, if mortarboard is so great, why is finished-in-place mortar still being used? With the latter, all irregularities in the substrate (walls, ceilings, floors, etc.) can be eliminated. Bumpy and wavy surfaces become perfectly smooth for tile when mortar is applied by an expert.

How can you get a smooth surface when working with mortarboard? Be sure that the surface that the mortarboard is being applied to is flat. This might mean planing

bumps and shimming up low spots, but it is cost-effective.

Cement mortarboard offers the convenience of drywall and the durability of a real cement mortar bed. Make sure it goes on a perfectly flat surface, and you'll get a great-looking job. If you plan on building your own shower, be prepared for a heavy lift. Mortarboard weighs a lot, yet is very easy to cut. Also, it can be installed in the same fashion as drywall, with nails or screws. A special fiberglass joint tape and a special joint compound are used to join seams and connections and to fill indentations caused by nails or screws.

Mortarboard should always be installed over a layer of asphalt-im-



MORRIS & JAMES CAREY
On the House

pregnated felt, as an extra measure to ensure a completely waterproof installation. This averts wood rot. With the mortarboard in place and with all seams and indentations filled, tile adhesive can be applied. An epoxy adhesive is expensive but works best. Standard thin-set adhesive also will work.

Mortarboard is ideal for wet areas, but it might be a waste of money in areas where water is not a problem (some floors, dry sinks, back splashes, etc.). In such locations, a good old mortarless installation will do the trick.

Finally, in our opinion, mortarboard should not be used for shower floors, kitchen countertops and bathroom countertops, or any other horizontal surface where water is abundant.

Write the Carey Brothers, c/o the Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020-1666, or e-mail them at careybro@onthehouse.com.

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1610 MILVIA STREET.....\$1,000,000
NEW LISTING! Berkeley Income Property 8 units - four-2BDs, four-1BDs, updated and clean! Eight off street parking spaces! Vacant at close of escrow!
Kevin P. Kennedy ext. 204

6811 AITKEN DRIVE.....\$380,000
Upgraded '60's Modern in "move-in condition". Walls of glass out to peaceful wooded view. Close-in location. Three bedrooms, two baths.
Peter & Ellen Nicolopoulos 339-9780

4046 WATERHOUSE RD.....\$485,000
NEW LISTING! Incredibly charming 4-BD, 2.5BA half-timber English. Expensively & lovingly remod, preserving orig. character. Updated kit & BA. Sensational LR w/vaulted, beamed ceiling & stone frpl. FDR. Fabulous new mst ste w/wirpool tub. Lg deck & yard.
Don Dunning 482-2256

3016 FLORIDA STREET.....\$171,000
NEW LISTING! Two bedroom, 1 bath great location! Fireplace in LR remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors. Near transportation, shops, restaurants, nice yard.
Patsy Buhler ext. 238

3700 - 3706 MAPLE.....\$419,000
Upgraded units with some views, condo like setup. Corner building w/excellent pvcy & light. Excellent maint building, fresh pt & new rfr in 1997. Great for owner/occ.
Carlo Tamburrino ext. 279

2917 MACARTHUR BLVD. #4G.....\$135,000
NEW LISTING! You will enjoy the enchanting view from this bright 2BD/1.5BA to floor condo. A woodburning fireplace and tiled entry hall add to the ambiance. Washer & dryer inside unit.
Heidi Tuggle 531-4554

BY APPOINTMENT

NEW NORTH OAKLAND LISTING.....\$215,000
Walking distance to MacArthur BART station. 2-Story Victorian w/sep meters, being sold as a single-fam res. Pest control work \$28,500. Listed price is "as-is". Lots of charm, located in fast appreciating neighborhood.
Frank Hennefer 654-6461

WHY PAY RENT?.....\$185,000
Single family home. Renovated 2BD/1BA, living room, dining room, remodeled kit & BA, newer roof & found. Full bsmt w/concrete flr, updated elect. Gated entrance. Credit for buyers closing costs. Incl. pest ctrl clearance.
Frank Hennefer 654-6461

MAXWELL PARK FIXER.....\$199,000
Potential three bedroom, formal dining room w/built-ins, eat-in kitchen. Huge basement to develop, large yard!
Kate Phillips 436-4100

SO MUCH FOR SO LITTLE.....\$165,000
Two-story townhouse, built in 1993. Only 10 units in complex. About 1100 sqft. 2BD/2.5BA. LR w/frpl, European style, & full bsmt. Gated entrance. Walk to shopping & transit to S.F. & downtown Oakland. 1st time buyers welcome!
Frank Hennefer 654-6461

CHARMING BUNGALOW.....\$138,500
Located near Mills College. 2BD/1BA, living room w/frpl, dining area, large eat-in kit. Roof done a few years ago. One car garage, nice pvt rear yd. Pest ctrl. report ava.
Frank Hennefer 654-6461

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1ST Showing ever! 4BD/3BA, 3 fireplaces, Epicurean kitchen with fine appointments! Exceptional views.
379 Gravatt. Open 1/16.
Lillian Braudy 510-526-5143

Hillier Highlands.....\$785,000
Fabulous designer twtns, 2+BD/2.5BA, pano views, quality finishes, stunning lifestyle.
Nancy Platford 510-845-0200

Montclair Magic.....\$575,000
2BD/2BA with great yard. Gorgeous large deck. Great yard. Convenient location with good privacy.
George Milliron 510-339-9290

***Open Sunday!.....\$554,000**
6818 Charing Cross. Newly constructed. 3+BD/2.5BA w/So. Bay views. Gourmet kitchen in great neighborhood.
Y. Ben-David 510-339-9290

Prime Units.....\$549,000
Lower North Oakland. 8 units. New roof. Off street parking. Corner of 28th and West.
Edwina Taylor 510-845-0200

***Open Sunday.....\$500,000**
32 Harbord Court. Just Listed! 4BD/2BA in great neighborhood on cul-de-sac.
Debora Larson 510-339-9290

***Open Sunday.....\$399,000**
39 Camelford Place. Just Listed! Very private 3BD/2BA. Great views from both decks.
Grynbal/Randall 510-339-9290

Location Is Important!.....\$296,000
North Oakland renovation being completed 3BD/2BA, fireplace and garage. "As Is" Sec. 1 will be cleared.
Edwina Taylor 510-845-0200

***North Oakland Brown Shingle \$255,000**
Open Sunday. 595 - 62nd Street. A sweet brown shingle with 2+BD and attic retreat. 2 minutes to BART, Berkeley and the "Bow".
Barbara Reynolds 510-287-9361, 510-845-0200

***Open Sunday!.....\$242,000**
4204 Terrace Street. 2BD/1 BA. Early 20th Century condo. Remodeled bath and kitchen.
John Wesley 510-339-9290

***Lofts/Lofts! \$199-325,000**
Lofts!.....\$199-325,000
Open Sat. & Sun. 2-4 p.m. 3240
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Berkeley/Albany
Classic Fixer.....\$355,000
"As Is" and art studio potential. 4BD/1 +BA. Parking location opportunity.
Nancy Platford 510-845-0200

Golden Gate View \$220,000
Great Berkeley condo. 1BD/1BA. Skylights. Huge shared yard. Wonderful street. Brown Shingle.
Camille Rogers 510-845-0200

2 BD Fixer in Berkeley \$219,000
This house can be a cutie again. Hardwood floors, fireplace, original charm, small yard. Nice area.
Ana & Pascal Forest 510-273-9332, 510-845-0200

WEST COUNTY
***Grand Tudor Estate.....\$750,000**
Open 1-4. 7210 View Ave. 4BD/3+BA on prof. landscaped 1/3 acre. Pano view. Near Mira Vista CC.
Vena Flint 510-233-6663, 510-527-9800

***Lovely El Sobrante Hills.....\$299,900**
Contemporary 3BD/2BA home. 4832 Morwood. Open Sun. 2-4. Elegant living room, marble fireplace, updated kitchen, much more!!
Rayne Palmer 510-526-5143

Breathtaking!.....\$1,180,000
Stunning 4BD/4.5BA beauty with panoramic views, amazing amenities.
Anna Lei 510-273-9127, 510-527-9800

EMERYVILLE
***Open Sunday.....\$245,000**
6 Commodore #C448. North Bay views from 2BD/1.5BA refurbished Watergate condo.
Pam Cornford 510-339-9290

SAN PABLO
Enjoy Care Free Living!.....\$115,000
Comfort & convenience are yours in this lovely condo. Master BD, balcony over pool. Sec. Gate, tennis, more!
Aliko Vasdekis 510-273-9312, 510-849-3711

BERKELEY/ALBANY
Coming Soon!! Berkeley Duplex.....\$399,000
Owner occupied gem. Near shops, restaurants, transit & U.C. Each unit: 2BD, fireplace, carport, good light.
Helene Barkin 510-273-9312, 510-849-3711

***Investment Opportunity.....\$335,000**
Open Sunday 2-4. 433-40th St. Temescal triplex w/spacious upper flat! Additional workshop, 2-car garage, and rear yard! Good income! Units delivered vacant!
Karen Bevis 510-849-3711, 510-273-9046

Two Houses/ One Lot.....\$310,000
Move-in condition duplex. 2BD/1.5BA. Handyman special house with 2BD/1BA.
Muriel Watkins-Dixon 510-834-2010

Invest in Emeryville.....\$260,000
2 cottages (2BD/1BA each) close to Oakland, Berkeley, S.F.
Graham Carter 510-845-0200

Contractor's Special.....\$38,000
Fire damaged, 4BD both units, corner lot, close to BART, freeways, downtown. Lisa Young 510-869-5801

COMM. INVESTMENT
Four Store Fronts.....\$675,000
Commercial building in Northwest Berkeley commercial corridor, near BART. Barbara Levy 510-420-1055, 510-849-3711

Berkeley North. Mixed use Commercial.....\$380,000
Grocery-liquor-deli store front w/3BD/2BA residential in back. Sep ent., gar, bsmt.
Barbara Levy 510-869-2786, 510-849-3711

Chinese Restaurant.....\$299,950
King Wah Chinese Restaurant in San Leandro. 2113 Marina Blvd. Price includes land, business, 28 parking spaces. Ardeene Swain 510-547-0429

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Montclair Lot!.....\$76,800
Great location w/bay and wooded views. Bring your builder. Utilities on site. Debora Larson 510-339-9290

ALAMEDA
***North Oakland Brown Shingle \$255,000**
Open Sunday. 595 - 62nd Street. A sweet brown shingle with 2+BD and attic retreat. 2 minutes to BART, Berkeley and the "Bow".
Barbara Reynolds 510-287-9361, 510-845-0200

EMERYVILLE
***Open Sunday.....\$245,000**
6 Commodore #C448. North Bay views from 2BD/1.5BA refurbished Watergate condo.
Pam Cornford 510-339-9290

Lenders take keen interest in overdue payments

Q I normally check the new balance of my loan each month with my finance software. It's always been the same as my printed statement. In recent months, however, it was off by \$0.95 and \$1.07. The difference is not in my favor. Also, now my loan is due on the first of the month and overdue on the 16th. I have been mailing my payments so they arrive between the 10th and the 14th.

When I called my lender, they said if my payment doesn't arrive by the first of the month, I have to pay interest each day until they receive it. They are basically taking away the 15-day grace period. I've looked through my paperwork and can't find anything that says they can do this. I also can't find anything that says they can't. I know it's only a buck a month, but at 6.5 percent over 30 years this amounts to about \$1,100.

A: Lenders have always calculated interest due based on a first-of-the-month payment plan. Most loan services never had the com-

VIRTUAL REAL ESTATE

GOT A QUESTION?

Have a real estate question and need fast, expert advice? Post it on the Virtual Real Estate Forum on the San Jose Mercury News' Real Estate Home Page at www.mercurycenter.com/realstate

puter programs to calculate daily interest, and effectively gave you a free day's interest every other month. I think what you are witnessing is the result of new software spawned by year 2000 upgrades that have the extra computing power to figure and collect interest on a daily basis. As for the 15-day grace period, it only applies to the late fee, not interest.

— Michael Ryan,
Flat Fee Funding

Home inspection

Q: After living in a 50-year-old home for 14 years, we sold our home in a divorce settlement. One year after the sale, the buyer filed a claim for nondisclosure of electric wiring that does not comply with today's codes. I also had installed wiring to a pump for a backyard Doughboy pool.

At the time of the sale, the buyer's real estate agent recommended a home inspection, but she refused. The city sent out its own inspector before the sale because she was getting a low-interest down payment loan from the city. The city said the home was fine. Our own real estate agent did not mention anything to us about any concerns about the house's electrical systems.

Am I responsible for making sure a home's systems are up to today's codes before I sell it? The

previous owners did not do that when we bought the house from them. Is there any time limit on claims like this, or can someone file a claim at any time after the sale? What are my obligations and rights, and what are the obligations of the two real estate agents? What should I do now?

A: You are not obligated to bring a home up to current building codes when you sell your property. The buyer had a contingency period in which to make inspections and discoveries about the property. Contingencies had to be removed before the property closed escrow. With contingencies removed, that signaled the buyer's acceptance of the property as it was. Have a real estate attorney respond to the buyer. That should quickly clear up the matter.

— Cindy L. Simon,
relocation specialist

A: While you are not obligated to upgrade a home to current building codes when you sell, when you

modify a home, you must do so in compliance with codes in effect when you complete the modification. A licensed contractor can help you determine what codes were applicable when you did the pool work. See your sales contract for any statute-of-limitations on defects, but if you were negligent installing the pool wiring, you may be liable, even if the contract's state-of-limitations has expired.

Some defects reveal negligence only over time. The buyer's own failure to follow professional advice could be taken into account in a court ruling or arbitration, and that could reduce or offset your liability. Sellers should always demand a buyer get a home inspection to help avoid these kinds of disputes. The seller should even

foot the bill for such an inspection if the buyer refuses.

— Paul J. Sommers-Ethan

Zoning issues

Q: I recently purchased my first home near downtown Glen. Before I closed, I didn't think about commercial zoning nearby. My home is surrounded by single-family residences. Is near some downtown businesses.

An old office building on the street. Could this be sold, razed and replaced with a business? Could the be redeveloped as an apartment building?

See VIRTUAL, Page 1



Publisher's Notice

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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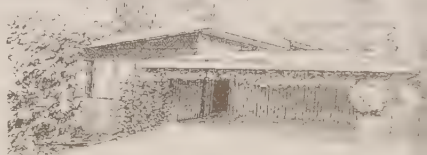
TUESDAY, 3:00 pm

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85 Kingston Road
KENSINGTON FIXER! \$285,000

Quiet Cul-de-Sac Location
Large Lot Size 8,500 sq. ft.
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms Master Bedroom/Bath Suite
Built in 1946 1,549 sq. ft.
Views of two Bridges and the Bay
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Aston Financial Group 925-934-5323	7.5+375+2	NQ	6.98+375+1.5	7.2+375+1.25	Save thousands of dollars with our discounted real estate services. Call for details.
Discovery Mortgage Co. 510-539-7245	7.875+0 7.375+2.125 7.25+2.75	5.875+0	7.375+0 7.25+25 7.125+75	7.625+0 7.375+1.5 6.875+2.375	Jumbos: 30yr 7.625+2.25; 5/1 ARM 7.5+0—\$252,750 minimum loan amount. VA, FHA, CHFA, PERS, CAL VET. After 5pm and weekends, 510-539-7245. Se habla Español, 925-688-6128.
Downey Savings & Loan 800-780-6614	7.625+2.375(7.93)	NQ	NQ	NQ	Jumbo: 30yr 7.75+2.25(8.01); 15yr 7.5+2(7.87). COFI 1mo ARM 3.95+5(7.57). Direct lender, 40 years experience. All types of borrowers. Fixed, ARM loans.
J&J Mortgage Corporation 925-254-1271	7.75+1(7.81)	6.125+1(6.36)	7+1(7.06)	7.375+1(7.48)	FHA/VA specialists. Se habla Español. Bankers since 1949. FHA 30yr ARM. Lock 60 days, caps 1% & 5%.
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626	8+0(8.13)	5.875+0(7.86)	7.375+0(7.50)	7.75+0(7.88)	Credit problems, bankrupt, difficult loans our specialty. All government loans. 100% loans, credit lines, construction. 20 years of service. Appointments anytime! 1-800-837-LOAN.
Prism Mortgage Co. 800-788-6522 CA DRE 00930036	7.75+1.5(7.94) 7.625+2(7.82) 7.5+2.5(7.72)	6.25+1(6.99) 5.875+0(6.59) 3.5+1(6.89)	7.25+1(7.29) 7+1.5(7.19) 6.75+2(7.09)	7.5+1.5(7.64) 7.375+2(7.54) 7.25+2.5(7.39)	Open Saturday and Sunday. Low-doc and quick qualify programs. Web: www.SteveCarlin.com Email: steve@stevecarlin.com

Information is current as of January 11, 2000. For information on specific mortgage programs, call the lender. Rates, points and programs are subject to change and cannot be guaranteed. Points include discount and origination fees. Most quotes are for 30-day lock-ins, unless otherwise stated. Rates quoted are based on loan amounts of \$125,000. Maximum conventional loan amount \$252,750. Jumbo loans are in excess of \$252,750. Annual Percentage Rate (APR)—an interest rate reflecting the cost of a mortgage as a yearly rate. This rate is likely to be higher than the stated rate or advertised rate on the mortgage, because it takes into account points and other credit costs. The APR allows homebuyers to compare different types of mortgages based on the annual cost for each loan. ARM—adjustable rate mortgage. LTV—loan to value. MI—mortgage insurance. VA—not available. NQ—rate not quoted. Lenders, to be listed in this paid column, call 1-800-CNS-8525. To calculate your exact mortgage payments using our electronic payment calculator and for extensive mortgage, real estate, and consumer financial information, including tips and definitions of terms, please visit our website at www.cnsweb.com. Copyright 2000 Consumer News Systems

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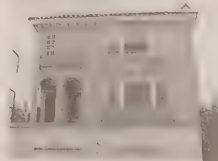


Two Houses, One Lot
1220 Oregon, Berkeley
\$275,000



New In Albany
921 Fillmore, Albany
\$240,000

Open 2-4pm



Gorgeous Duplex
854-856 Vermont, Oakland
\$449,000

Red Oak Salutes These Agents For The New Millennium



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Julie Cuellas
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Gwen Hoople
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Nancy Hoover
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Virtual

PAGE B10

ing on the other side and family residences behind it. There is an old churchlike structure, a couple of houses away. This ever be rebuilt as anything other than a church? Financial blocks away there are restaurants and convenience stores. Could the city perse businesses to sell out to big such as a fast-food restaurant?

oy the thought of living blocks from downtown, but from the NIMBY (not-in-my-backyard) complex. If any of development fears come true, lower my property value. You are asking questions the city can answer. Visit San Planning Department and in the exact addresses of businesses or buildings that you. The city can tell you what parcel is zoned and answer "what if" questions.

Keep in mind that state laws mandate extensive environmental impact studies, public hearings and other prerequisites for extensive modifications to properties. Also, while you may view certain changes as detrimental to your property's value, others will enjoy or even seek homes near such establishments. Change is often necessary to update and enhance buildings and areas. Updated businesses and buildings could make your home more attractive.

— Grace Morioka, Commoncents Management

A: To answer all of your questions would take a great deal of research on each nonresidential property. Without doing the research on specific properties, I can say that if your neighborhood changes to more commercial zoning, the value of your property — provided it, too, was rezoned for commercial use — would increase, not decrease.

— Sam J. Gilstrap, enrolled agent, real estate broker

Exclusive listings

Q: We are thinking about buy-

ing a house and have used a friend of the family in the past as the buying agent. We saw a house the other day and called the listing agent. She told us that since it was an exclusive listing, she would not cooperate with our broker. Our broker said that this is unethical. We just want a house. I don't really care who the agent is.

A: An exclusive agency listing, one of six available types of listing agreements, permits the listing agent not to cooperate with other agents to sell the property. If you want the property, deal with the listing agent.

— Jack Tereza, Brooktree Realty Inc.

A: If you have confidence and trust in your broker, your relationship may be more valuable to you than one property. Give your broker written instructions to approach the seller directly to bypass the listing agent and make an offer, subject to your right to inspect it. The seller may not know potential buyers are being turned away.

In a seller's market, such as the one we are experiencing now, some agents get greedy and attempt to sell homes without placing them on

the multiple listing service so they don't have to share the commission. Sellers may be unaware that the home is not listed on the MLS, the only way to get the best price for a home. Assume as suspect any agent who suggests a home can only be bought through the listing agent. The agent's conduct may be legal and ethical, but buyers should question the situation.

There is nothing that stops buyers from knocking on a seller's door to ask if he or she is aware of what's happening. If the seller is aware of the listing-agent-only restriction, question the seller's reasoning and be a wary consumer. It's not in your best interest to be denied representation by an agent of your choice.

— Paul Joseph Joyner, Sommers-Ethan Properties

Virtual Real Estate answers are neither legal advice nor professional counseling. Questions and answers are edited for clarity and space. Without the full content of a given problem, answers should be read as basic information. Consult a professional for specific needs.

DOWNPAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS

Are you a low to moderate income, first-time homebuyer interested in purchasing a home in Emeryville?

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Magic bids for Jack London project

agic Johnson isn't planning the Golden State Warriors, though the job is still open. But this way, Johnson will have an impression on Oakland's city. The retired NBA great's investment business, Johnson Development Companies, is part of a bid submitted a proposal to 10 acres of Jack London

project and developed the Portobello residential project in the Jack London district.

SPI Holdings LLC, which has headquarters in San Francisco and Dallas, rounds out this crew. SPI developed the first new high-rise office in Irvine since the 1980s and com-

pleted the first phase of the Berkeley Crossing office in Berkeley.

Compiled by Janet Adamy from company and wire reports. A new column is posted daily on hotcoco.com at 12:30 p.m.

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

7210 VIEW AVENUE, EL CERRITO

GRAND TUDOR ESTATE
4 bedroom, 3+ bath luxury home on professionally landscaped 1/3 acre. Panoramic views. Near Mira Vista Country Club. Many amenities.

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A blend of quaint charm, sophisticated style and all the comforts of home at a surprisingly affordable price.

Elegant interiors, vaulted ceilings, fully-appointed kitchens and bathrooms, and energy saving GE appliances are just a few of the distinctive features found in a new Village Square home.

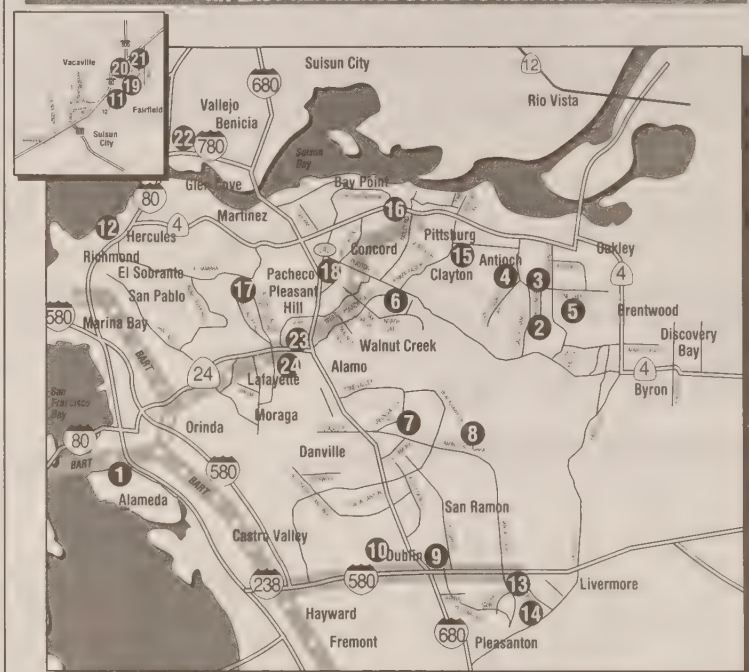
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Starting in the mid \$300,000's
Private entry with mature oak trees
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Preview Village Square at:
www.newhomenetwork.com/sanfrancisco/delcobluiders

NEW COMMUNITIES



- ALAMEDA**
- The Gardens**
From low \$300,000's. 3 & 4BR, 2 story, 2 car gar., 1365-1676 sq. ft. Great rooms, lots avail. Alameda's newest Webster Tube/Buena Vista/rt. to models. Open 10-5, Tues. 12-5. Also available at Starward in Dublin. 510-521-5347. www.schulera.com
- ANTIOCH**
- Castellana at Black Diamond Knolls**
From the \$230,000's. New Release! Richland's 4 & 5 BR, 2200-2600 sq. ft. w/3 car gar., country kit., 7000-sq. ft. lots. Lone Tree to Mokelumne Dr. Open 11-5. 925-706-8855 or www.richlandinfo.com
 - Lone Tree Estates-Masters Collection**
From high \$200,000's. Up to \$5K allowances! Final Phase. Rec. ctr./pool/spa/tennis/more! 1 & 2 story, 2127-2896 sq. ft., 3-6BR/3 car gar., ext. amenities & opls. Lone Tree/Muirwood. Davidson Homes. Open 10-5. 925-778-3092
 - Tourelle**
From low \$300,000's. New Release! Richland's 4-6BR/3-4 car gar., 1,2 stories, 2715-3935 sq. ft., 10,000+ sq. ft. lots. Dramatic entries. Lone Tree/Golf Course Rd. 11-5. 925-706-8883 or www.richlandinfo.com
- BRENTWOOD**
- Diablo Vista**
From low \$200,000's. Affordable Luxury Living! Designs to 2700 sq. ft., 5BR, 3BA. Commute loc. at Fairview/San Jose. Richmond American Homes. 925-516-7193. www.richmondamerican.com
- CONCORD**
- Crystall Ranch**
From mid \$400,000's. New Release! Luxury, rolling hills, 4 spec. floor plans, 2400-3400 sq. ft., elegant int., custom. opls. Ygnacio Vly/rt on Pine Hollow/Rolling Woods Way. 925-687-3522/www.legacyluxuryhomes.com
- DANVILLE**
- Campbell Place**
From the \$800,000's. 20 craftsman-style on lg. view lots w/100 ft. floorplans. 680 to Sycamore Vly. Rd. E/rt. onto Camino Tassajara/rt. on Glasgow Dr/rt. on Glasgow Cir/rt. on Campbell Place. Pacific Union Homes. 925-743-0238
 - Shadow Creek Manor**
From low \$600,000's. Selling Final Phase! Closeout Sale! 4-5 BR. Take 680 to Crow Canyon Rd. east, right on Camino Tassajara, follow signs. Open 10-5, closed Tues/Wed. 925-736-7369
- DUBLIN**
- Merrion at Emerald Park**
From high \$300,000's. New Release! Lux. mstr. plan. comm. w/3 designs, to 2200 sq. ft. 5BR/3BA, loft. Hacienda off 580 nr. BART. Open 10-5, Mon. 2-5. www.richmondamerican.com. 925-829-8029
 - Starward**
From low \$300,000's. 3-4BR, 2BA, 2 story, steel built. Garden setting! Views/hwy. access/shopping/schools. 580/exit San Ramon N/rt. Amador Vly/rt. Starward Dr. www.schulera.com or 925-875-1060
- FAIRFIELD**
- Ridgeview at Paradise Valley**
From mid \$200,000's. Grand Opening! Spacious, to 7BR, 1-80/rt. N. Texas St/rt. Dickson Hill/rt. Dover/rt. Manuel Campos/rt. Paradise Vly. Dr. 10-5/Mon. 2-5. www.richmondamerican.com 707-438-7800.
- HERCULES**
- Belleterre**
From \$306,880. 4BR, 3BA, 2/3 car gar. Opt. 5th BR, den. Steel-built/structured cabling. Bay views. EZ commutes. (80)San Pablo Rd/Hercules Av/Titan Way. Open 10-5/Tues. 12-5. 510-741-9165/ www.schulera.com
- LIVERMORE**
- Ridgecrest**
From high \$300,000's. Grand Closeout! Great loc., designs to 2273 sq. ft., 4 BR, 2.5 BA, nr. 580/ BART/ACE train 580 to N. Livermore, left on Portola. Open 10-5, Mon. 2-5. 925-371-6648. www.richmondamerican.com
 - Vintage Collection**
From low \$600,000's. Scenic homes by Delco Bldrs. 1/3-1/2 ac. w/ views of Livermore Vly/vineyards. Close to Ruby Hill Golf Course, top rated schools. Spacious floorplans, complete amenities. Open Thurs.-Mon. 925-606-5505
- PITTSBURG**
- Highlands Ranch**
From low \$200,000's. Beautifully designed, 1134-3549 sq. ft., 3-5BR, 2.5 car gar., opls. incl. dens, lofts, media cabling system. Near shopping, schools & freeway access. Loc. off Buchanan Rd., bet. Lovelidge & Somersville. (925) 439-9070. Seeno homes. www.seenohomes.com
 - Montera II, Summit Collection**
From mid \$200,000's. 4-6 BR w/options to 7. Three floorplans. 1815-4243 sq. ft., 3 car gar., great opls. inc. second mstr. BR, dens, mstr. retreats. Nr. freeways, walk to BART Hwy 4 to Bailey Rd. so., rt. on Leland, left on Southwood. 925-709-1037. www.seenohomes.com.
- PLEASANT HILL**
- Grayson Woods**
From low \$500,000's. Up to \$15K allowances! View & Cul-de-sac! Lots! Perfect loc. for commuters. Two-story, 2212-3135 sq. ft., 3-6BR, 3 car gar. Future golf course, low maint., 4 mi. to 3 hwy's/BART. Taylor Blvd to Grayson. Davidson Homes. Open 10-5, Mon. 1-5. 925-274-0800
 - Village Square**
Mid \$300,000's to low \$400,000's. Single family homes by Delco Bldrs., 3-5BR, 2.5-3.5BA. Private entry, landscaped common area. Close to PH BART, 680, 150 Hookston Rd. More info 925-952-4595.
- VACAVILLE**
- Brighton at Westgate**
From the \$190,000's. Beautifully designed 3 & 4 BR Seeno homes, 4 floorplans, 1432-1843 sq. ft., 2 car garage, convenient location 180 to Alamo Dr. to Peabody to Foxboro. 707-448-6243/ www.seenohomes.com
 - Diamond Grove**
From mid \$160,000's. Gated active adult comm. Contemporary 1 story homes. Beaut. pvt. rec. ctr./w/game rms., swimming & more! Open 11-6-1-80 to Orange Dr., follow to Orange Tree Cir. 707-447-5800
 - Village Hills**
From mid \$200,000's. No Mello Roos! Beaut. Estate style, to 3312 sq. ft., 3, 4 & 5 BR, 3 car garages. Easy access to hwy's/shopping. Take Elmira exit off I-80, East to Belard. 707-454-0162. www.seenohomes.com
- VALLEJO**
- Crystal Pointe**
From the \$190,000's. FINAL PHASE! Hillside homes in established neighborhood w/ views of Carquinez Strait. 3 Plans to 1613 sq. ft., 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA. Great commute loc. near I-80. Open Fri/Sun/Mon. www.richmondamerican.com. Richmond American Homes 707-643-5486
- WALNUT CREEK**
- Larkey Estates**
From \$494,900. PHASE I Pre-Model Sale. LCI Homes, creek, estate lots, 4-6BR, 2458-2800 sq. ft. Larkey Ln/Geary Rd., 680/24/BART close. NRS Brokers. 925-935-9152. Open Wed. thru Fri. 1-5. Sat/Sun. 10-5.
 - Laurel Glen**
Mid \$400,000's to mid \$500,000's. Delco Bldrs. Affordability & style in 3 spacious plans. Close to W.C. schools, 24 & 680, downtown Lafayette & W.C. Open Sat/Sun. 2569 Lucy Ln. 925-975-5205.

YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE **OPEN HOMES** OPEN SUNDAY*

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
872 Oak St. Finest Nahid Nassiri, Montclair Better Homes (510) 339-9400	384/8a	2-4	\$1,088,000
601 Northvale Kitty Wan, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1128	3 - 84/28a	2-4	\$560,000
758 Limerick Darin Vessal, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4824	484/28a	2-4	\$529,000
2930 Gibbons Dev & George Williams, Harbor Bay (510) 522-7173	384/2 - 8a	2-4	\$517,000
1427 Paru St Raja Thimman, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1102	3 - 84/8a	2-4	\$485,000
3050 Washington St OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY Rafik Usman, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1108	284/1 - 8a	2-4	\$475,000
516 Central Ave Walt Gahert, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1129	384/18a	2-4	\$378,000
620 Waterview Isle Barbara Bolton, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4714	284/28a	2-4	\$399,500
620 Waterview Lorraine Ingeman, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4916	284/28a	2-4	\$399,500
620 Waterview Isle Barbara Bolton, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4714	284/28a	2-4	\$399,500
211 McDonnell Marcia M. Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4827	384/2 - 8a	2-4	\$398,500
2207 Lincoln George Mohr, Kane & Associates (510) 522-1853	584/38a	2-4:30	\$360,000
1821 Everitt St 2 - 84/8a	2 - 84/8a	2-4	\$349,000
Denise Gardner, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1104			
21 Millington Ct Steve Cressy, Harbor Bay Realty (510) 814-4818	284/2 - 8a	2-4	\$319,000
2428 Buena Vista Mindy Hart, Kane & Associates (510) 522-0746	284/28a	2-4	\$275,000
1016 Verdemar Mindy Hart, Kane & Associates (510) 522-0746	384/2 - 8a	2-4	\$269,000
872 Oak St. OPEN SATURDAY ONLY Denise Gardner, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1104	384/8a	2-4	\$268,000
1220 Derby Ed Fagrey, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 301-1010- pager 291-9401	384/28a	12-2	\$250,000
2254 Pacific Ave Fred Hobbs, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 748-1138	2 - 84/28a	2-4	\$248,000
2101 Shoreline Dr #206 OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY Kathy Ghosli, Gallagher & Lindsey (510) 522-6425	284/1 - 8a	2-4	\$245,000
643 Haight Dana Zook-Short, Harbor Bay (510) 814-4823	284/1 - 8a	2-4	\$195,000

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Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2205 San Antonio Ave Jenny, Kane & Associates (510) 522-0968	284/1 - 8a	2-4	\$169,000
455 Central Ave #A Linda Larkin, 522-9479 or Tony Aranda 521-8148 Continental	184/18a	2-4	\$109,000
1417 Central Ave Robert Sampson, Prudential (510) 869-5823	484/38a	2-4	\$549,000
1622 Clinton Ave.484/38a SUNDAY Barbara M. Nassiri, Realty (510) 814-4827	2-4:30	\$485,000	OPEN SAT- SUNDAY

ALAMO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1125 High St OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY Eileen Warner, Alameda Realty (510) 865-3147	384/18a	2-4:30	\$244,000

ALBANY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
809 San Carlos Ave. CHARMING- Hardwood Floors, Private Deck and Garden Michael L. McManis, Bayridge R.E. (510) 524-3333 2113	384/8a	2-4:30	\$459,000
921 Fillmore 1st OPEN! Bright and Bold John & Judith (510) 280-2109, Red Oak Realty	284/18a	2-4	\$240,000

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6966 Bristol Dr. Beverly Steiner, NRS Brokers 525-682-3400 ext 43	584/38a	1-4:30	\$648,000
1111 Shattuck Ave. NORTH BERKELEY- Charming Mediterranean/Pristine Condition Kim & Barbara Martindale, Coldwell Banker 510-981-3036	384/18a	2-5	\$435,000
2075 Emerson M. Pfander, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	484/8a	2-4	\$355,000
1220 Oregon WONDERFUL!!! Detached Studio Gwen (510) 280-2164, Red Oak Realty	284/18a	2-4	\$275,000

921 Fillmore
1st OPEN! Bright and Bold
John & Judith (510) 280-2109, Red Oak Realty

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Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2804 Hillegass Camille Rogers, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	184/8a	2-4	\$220,000
2804 Hillegass Camille Rogers, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	184/8a	2-4	\$220,000
1554 Allison Way Ana & Pascal Forest, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	284/8a	2-4	\$219,000
3159 Lawiston Elmwood Sandi Kanner, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	4 - 84/28a	2-4:30	\$885,000

EL CERRITO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
7424 Rockway 3 - 84/8a Richard Harrison, Marvin Gardens (510) 527-2700 ext 32	3 - 84/8a	2-4:30	\$348,000
7424 Rockway Ave. For More Information, Please Call Richard Harrison (510) 527-2700 x32, Marvin Gardens R.E.	384/28a	2-4:30	\$348,000
782 Pomeroy Victor Wang, Prudential CA Realty (510) 526-5143	284/8a	1-4	\$257,000
1405 Brewster Dr Melitta Beeson, The Grubb Co (510) 339-0400	384/28a	2-4:30	\$489,000
7210 View Ave. GRAND TUDOR ESTATE-Prof Landscaped 1/3 Acre, Private Views! Vera & Dean Reid, (510) 233-6663, Prudential CA Realty	484/3 - 8a	1-4	\$-

EMERYVILLE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6 Commodore Pam Dorland, Prudential CA Realty (510) 339-9290	284/1 - 8a	2-4:30	\$245,000

KENSINGTON

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
85 Kingston Rd. KENSINGTON FLEX-Views of Two Bridges and Bay Deborah Everett, (510) 524-8508, Jeans Realty	384/28a	2-4	\$285,000
11 Jessen Ct RETREAT on a quiet cul-de-sac. Magical garden. Todd Hedson (510) 527-9111, 559-2915, Marvin Gardens	384/28a	2-4	\$250,000
LAFAYETTE Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price

1705 Greenhill Court
Jim Rauchbach, Coldwell Banker - Orinda (925) 254-3030

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
13730 Campus Dr Ridgmont, Skyline Hills Phil Far, Prudential (510) 982-4095	484/48a	2-4:30	\$1,065,000
379 Gravit Dr. CUSTOM BUILT- Fabulous Sun-Filled Contemporary Lille Brady, (510) 644-5262, Prudential CA Realty	384/8a	2-4	\$925,000
379 Gravit Dr. Lille Brady, Prudential CA Realty (510) 526-5143	484/38a	2-4	\$925,000
16 Schooner Hill B. Pfander, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	2 - 84/8a	2-4	\$785,000
6818 Charing Cross Oakland Hills Y. Ben-David, Prudential (510) 339-9290	3 - 84/28a	2-4:30	\$554,000
6833 Moore Martha Shin, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-8806	384/28a	2-4:30	\$549,500

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
32 Harbor Court Upper Rockledge Barbara Reynolds, Prudential (510) 339-9290	484/28a	2-4:30	\$500,000
6112 Colton Blvd Angela Wei, The Grubb Co (510) 339-0400	84/38a	2-4:30	\$485,000
7230 Woodrow Dr Hal Castle, La Salle Properties (510) 339-9778	384/28a	2-4:30	\$448,000
7230 Woodrow Dr Hal Castle, LaSalle Properties (510) 339-9778	384/2 - 8a	2-4:30	\$448,000
654 Vermont LOVELY-SPACIOUS Duplex 2 Bdrms, 1 Ba. Pkts Sara (510) 280-2105, Red Oak Realty	284/18a	2-4	\$448,000
2224 Potham Pl 2 - 84/28a	2 - 84/28a	2-4:30	\$395,000
39 Camerford Dr Montclair Gynethal Randall, Prudential (510) 339-9290	384/28a	2-4:30	\$398,000
2135 Mastlands Montclair Terry Kallia, Coldwell Bankers - Montclair (510) 339-4700	284/28a	2-5	\$335,000
4630 Granum Pl Redwood Heights Phyllis Wherry, Coldwell Bankers - Montclair (510) 339-4700	384/1 - 8a	2-4:30	\$329,000
617 Allen St North Oakland Tom Kenneth, LaSalle Properties (510) 339-9900 x249	284/28a	2-4:30	\$299,000
617 Allen St Tom Kenneth, LaSalle Properties (510) 339-9900 ext 249	284/28a	2-4:30	\$299,000
10500 Creekside Cr Angela Lawson, La Salle Properties (510) 569-1314	384/28a	2-4:30	\$299,000

1705 Greenhill Court
Jim Rauchbach, Coldwell Banker - Orinda (925) 254-3030

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
595 62nd St. Barbara Reynolds, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	2 - 84/28a	2-4:30	\$255,000
595 62nd St. NORTH OAKLAND-2 minutes dash from Berkeley & BART Barbara Reynolds, (510) 287-9361 845-0200 Prudential	2 - 84/28a	2-4:30	\$255,000
4204 Terrace St Piedmont Ave Oakland John Wesley, Prudential (510) 339-9290	284/18a	2-4:30	\$242,000
6042 Manchester Dr Super Rockledge Don Knowland, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	384/8a	2-4:30	\$2,400,000
2435 11th Ave Chino Hill Lani Dr, Coldwell Bankers - Montclair (510) 339-4700	284/28a	2-4	\$238,000
3801 Harrison Rose Garden Steve Roemer, Prudential (510) 339-9290	3 - 84/28a	2-4:30	\$215,000
3020 Millbrae Howard Park Maria Sinclair, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-9596	384/18a	2-4:30	\$210,000
5415 Fleming Ave Howard Park Maria Sinclair, Montclair Better Homes (510) 287-9596	284/128a	2-4:30	\$189,000
10500 Creekside Circle Angela Lawson, LaSalle Properties (510) 569-1314	384/28a	2-4:30	\$153,000
131 Sheridan Rd Upper Rockledge Dick Cohen, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	484/3 - 8a	2-4:30	\$985,000
3 Schooner Hill Hiller Hill Tricia Swift, Templeton Co (510) 652-2133	384/2 - 8a	2-4:30	\$985,000
3501 Richmond Blvd Paw 2 Bedroom units Ed Kuo, The Grubb Co (510) 339-0400	484/8a	2-4:30	\$835,000
35 Binnack Hill Hiller Highlands Elizabeth Dickson, The Grubb Co (510) 339-0400	284/28a	2-4:30	\$485,000
6622 Chabot Rd Rockledge Lille Avant, Templeton (510) 652-2133	3 - 84/18a	2-4:30	\$439,000
4676 Redwood Rd Kert Buchholz, The Grubb Co (510) 339-0400	384/28a	2-4:30	\$429,000
20 Brentwood Pl Oakland Robyn Mohr, Pacific Union (510) 339-6460	384/28a	2-4:30	\$398,000

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Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3100 Birdcall Ave Marwell Park Leslie Eastland, Templeton (510) 652-2133	284/18a	2-4:30	\$398,000
3725 Canon Ave Judy Rankin, The Grubb Co (510) 339-0400	284/18a	2-4:30	\$398,000
5420 Dover St Editha Taylor, Prudential (510) 845-0200	284/18a	2-4:30	\$398,000
3240 Peralta St Lafayette Theresa Smith Walker, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	484/3 - 8a	2-4:30	\$398,000
120 Maxwellton Rd Piedmont Rafik Nassiri, Montclair Better Homes (510) 814-4827	384/2 - 8a	2-4:30	\$398,000
RICHMOND Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
4832 Morwood Dr Ally Vasdekis, Prudential CA Realty (510) 845-0200	384/2 - 8a	2-4:30	\$398,000
SAN LEANDRO Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
201 Beverly Ave Broadmoor Earle Shank, Montclair Better Homes (510) 814-4827	3 - 84/28a	2-4:30	\$398,000
1059 Grace Rafik Nassiri, Montclair Better Homes (510) 814-4827	384/2 - 8a	2-4:30	\$398,000
1462 - 1320 Ave Baron Dr. Arnold, Montclair Better Homes (510) 814-4827	384/2 - 8a	2-4:30	\$398,000



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250 Help Wanted

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Ready

FROM PAGE B1

Then, on to the guest house.

"After we completed the main house, we then turned our attention to the guest house," says Bierly. "But unlike the big house, it was too run-down to save. Plus, it was sitting on soil. So we jacked it up, moved it off the site, and rebuilt an exact replica on a concrete foundation. The little house has such remarkable lines, and we did save the roof."

They then set about repeating the same bright summer colors — raspberry, yellow and greens — and a casual atmosphere that the clients had wanted in the main house. By late winter, the color scheme, fabrics and furnishings had been chosen, and the task of pulling it all together was in the hands of David Wantuck, project captain, and his assistant, Karen Rich.

Attention to detail

Rich, the detail person, tracked the orders — making sure, for example, that the sofa fabric was shipped to the upholsterer and then the sofa was shipped to the warehouse — and checked on trim, wall coverings, lighting fixtures and dye lots.

"Everything has a holding number in our warehouse," says Rich. "That's where we store everything for each project. The people at the warehouse are also our movers, which makes installations run more smoothly." So on Nov. 15, the installation began. A floor plan was pinned to the front door, and Wantuck and Rich directed the movers as they brought in each piece from two small trucks. The sisal rug for

the living-dining area went down first, followed by the rugs in the two bedrooms.

There's a blue or a red rug for the more casual, twin-bedded room — the color will be chosen when the room is more complete. Electricians and cable men are still doing last-minute wiring. And drapery installers are up on ladders, hanging floor-length curtains in the other, yellow bedroom and the living room.

'The fun part'

"The installation is the fun part," says Rich, who is putting a bed together with Wantuck in the red and blue bedroom. "Except if something goes wrong, like furniture arriving damaged, or, like in Chicago, the drapery installer cutting himself and bleeding all over white drapes. But things like that don't happen very often, since we stick with the same installers and movers year after year. And if drapes are not right or a fabric is wrong on a chair, we can get them redone within a day."

Several pieces are brought in that don't belong in the house — outdoor furniture that will go in the basement, or extra chairs and tables.

"We often bring extra pieces if we're not sure whether we'll use them or not," says Rich. "It's easier to send something back than to have to ask the movers to make another trip down." Wantuck leaves for the local hardware store with a list that includes bolts for the beds and a good pair of scissors.

The movers are now bringing in smaller items: a pair of andirons shaped like anchors that the owners bought at an auction; a set of fireplace tools.

"This is all a very liquid process because Lee and Chris (Drake) have been at this a long time and travel a lot," says Rich. "If something does-

n't work in one house, it will work in another house. If they see a spot that needs something, they'll remember a piece they'd seen in a Florida shop or overseas and will have it shipped here overnight."

Three days later

By Nov. 18, the guest house was virtually complete. And Bierly and Drake had done their "walk-through" the previous evening: The two partners walked from room to room and approved or disapproved of a painting, a rug, the placement of furniture — everything, down to a candy dish.

In the living room, for example, they wanted two fruit prints on either side of the media cabinet replaced by something more folksy, says Rich, and small tables added throughout the house.

But Wantuck, with the help of Rich, had already been at work accessorizing the rooms. The day before, he'd bought photo frames, magazines and coffee-table books for the living room and an oil painting for over the fireplace mantel. He'd moved a painted chest from the red and blue bedroom out into the dining area, where it works as a server. He moved a tall iron etagere from the kitchen, where it was to hold flowerpots and place mats, into the dining area, where it now displays a collection of birdhouses. He bought creamware, for a collection of plates hung in the yellow bedroom, and trash baskets, tissue holders and toast racks to hold the guest towels in the bathrooms. He also bought linens and comforters for the beds.

The only thing the house needs is its first guests.

Planning

FROM PAGE B6

run to thousands of dollars. Comparison shopping for the best possible mortgage plan can make a vital difference in your ability to qualify for your first house, says Marc Eisenson, co-author of "Invest in Yourself: Six Secrets to a Rich Life" (1998, John Wiley & Sons).

Here are some suggestions for renters determined to become owners in 2000:

■ Set up a face-to-face meeting with your lender

Many mortgage lenders will go over your finances with you and even review your credit report on the phone. Yet there's nothing better than a personal meeting to establish rapport and convey to the lender how serious you are about your quest. "When you're out to buy something that costs thousands and thousands of dollars, you want to be on a businesslike basis," DelRose says.

At the close of your meeting, be sure to tell him or her that you want to stay in close touch until your goal is met. "Keep your mortgage lender posted on your progress. The continuous contact will make you stay on the straight and narrow," DelRose says.

■ Don't try to overreach your ability to buy a first home

In many cases, young people imagine themselves starting out in a spacious property, something as upscale as their parents may have achieved.

Yet most owners of large houses have had to climb the housing ladder over a period of many years, and chances are you'll be compelled

to do the same. But that's better than abandoning your objective.

■ Stop 'recreational shopping'

Many Americans make at least twice-weekly trips to a regional mall or major discount outlet. With little effort, it's easy to drop \$100 on a routine shopping venture. Do that twice a week and you're spending a remarkable \$10,400 a year. For many renters, such a sum — held in a liquid savings instrument — could make a meaningful difference in their chances of purchasing a starter house, especially in a moderately priced community.

Look back on your shopping ventures of the past several months. How much of the money could have gone to your primary goal of owning a house?

■ Question the need for lots of 'gee-whiz' technology

Sure it's a great idea to have a basic cell phone, and it's fine to own a home computer. But is it really crucial that you buy a powerful computer with a Pentium III processor, as well as a cell phone tiny enough to attach to your belt?

Perhaps not. The purchase of too much electronic gadgetry could pose another barrier to your dream of saying "goodbye" to your landlord, Eisenson says.

Also, technology items tend to depreciate in value over time. In contrast, you can assume that most residential property will gain in worth.

■ Focus a laser beam on reducing your debt load.

As a consumer advocate and specialist in debt-reduction strategies, Eisenson contends that the use of credit creates too much affluence while actually keeping many from reaching their objectives.

Ellen James Martin is a columnist. Write to her at Press Syndicate, 480 Kansas City, MO 64112.

Harney

FROM PAGE B6

Does it make sense to assume your 401(k) plan? Only if you have a company plan to borrow from the cost of the house. Here's primary home to the hidden dangers: You have equity, and no cushion against downturn.

On the other hand, if you afford to buy a house without a hard down payment, feel about your job tenure, tempted to borrow from plan, then take a hard look at might add up.

Kenneth R. Harney is a columnist who is president of Harney Corp., a publishing firm based in Chevy Chase, Md. Write to him at the Washington Post Writers Group, 11 St., N.W., Washington, DC.



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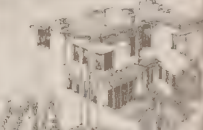


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SPORTS

JV

Friday, January 14, 2000

Section C

Basketball Gaucho boys looking for respect [C2]

Arts 'The Hurricane' fails to do much damage [C3]

No longer intimidated

St. Mary's beats St. Joseph as Freeman and Dixon score 17 each for Panthers

By Bill Kruissink

Since we beat them (last year), there's not that stigma that St. Joe's is all-powerful."

St. Mary's coach Jose Caraballo

Figure it's been close to 10 years since the St. Mary's Panthers last beat the St. Joseph Notre Dame Pilots in a league game.

But St. Mary's coach Jose Caraballo said his club has been mentally ready to log a league win over the perennially powerful Pilots since beating them in a nonleague game last year.

It was just a matter of closing the deal.

Playing to a nearly-full house in the league opener for both clubs on Friday night, the Panthers (13-4 overall, 2-0 in the ACCAL after win over Piedmont, see related story) edged into a 34-33 lead on a 3-pointer by DaShawn Freeman 1 1/2 minutes into the second half and never trailed again, stopping the Pilots 59-55 in Berkeley.

"It's been a long time," said Caraballo, who was an assistant coach at St. Joe the last time the Panthers beat the Pilots in league. "But I think we have a different attitude ever since we beat them (in the preseason) last year. Since we beat them, there's not that stigma that St. Joe's is all-powerful."

He added: "You know, I've got kids who've been with me for awhile, that have a lot of confidence. I've got kids who can play."

Kids such as Rellon Dixon, who scored all of his 17 points in the first three quarters and Freeman, who pounded in his 17 points in the final three.

And St. Mary's clinched the game with returning all-league guard Ebon Glenn sitting out much of the game with foul trouble. Glenn, a force either driving to the hoop or operating in the open court, picked up his third foul in the second period and had four fouls just minutes into the third. He sat out the next eight min-

See ST. MARY'S, Page C2



ST. MARY'S CELESTE MCGRUDER (30) shoots over Piedmont's Allison Flato (5) in the Panthers' 46-43 win Tuesday night in Berkeley

Panthers run away from Pilots

St. Mary's girls start league at 2-0

By Bill Kruissink

St. Mary's High School began the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League girls basketball season with a 15-4 run. But they needed a mesmerizing 18-2 game-ending jolt to put away the St. Joseph-Notre Dame girls.

Playing to a good-sized crowd in Berkeley, the Panthers (8-6 overall, 2-0 ACCAL after a 46-43 win over Piedmont on Tuesday) beat the Pilots 57-38. They did it by overcoming a poor night of shooting and by finding answers to a certain problem with turnovers.

But mainly, they put the win in the book by wearing the Pilots down and delivering in the fourth quarter.

"We had three or four turnovers off the motion offense," Panther coach Don Lawson said, "and that gave them an opportunity to get back in."

"I think we just needed to hustle a bit more," Pilot Christina Blackwood said. "We could have beaten them."

That was a distinct possibility, particularly as the third quarter kicked in. Trailing 15-4 a minute into the second quar-

See PANTHERS, Page C2

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Berkeley rolls over Livermore

Albany, El Cerrito fall in league play

Staff report

Aisha Hollans scored 33 points and grabbed 12 rebounds as the Berkeley High girls rolled over Livermore 84-36 Tuesday night in Livermore.

Nicole Brown and Sabrina Keys added 15 points apiece in this one-side game.

Erica McGlaston scored eight points, and had 11 assists and eight steals.

"Basically we played pretty well," said Berkeley coach Gene Nakamura. "We only had nine players. One had dental surgery, one was injured and one broke team rules. Everybody hustled."

The Yellowjackets used man-to-man pressure in the first half and then dropped back into a half-court game for the second half. By the fourth quarter they employed a soft zone so as not to run up the score.

Hollans scored all her points in just three quarters of play. Berkeley climbed to 11-2 overall, 3-0 in the East Bay Athletic League. The Jackets play tonight at home against Monte Vista in one of the better challenges for this league season. Game time is 7 p.m.

Kennedy downs El Cerrito

Sophomore center Deidra Chatman recorded a triple double (16 points, 12 rebounds, 12 blocks) to lead visiting Kennedy (9-2, 2-0 ACCAL) to a 57-44

Sophomore forward Marquita Stewart added 15 rebounds and junior forward Shantel Wesley had six points, 13 rebounds, eight assists and six steals for the Eagles.

Destiny Nowlin paced the Gauchos (6-10, 0-2) with 24 points, including five 3-pointers, and also had seven rebounds and five steals.

El Cerrito scored just five points in each of the first two quarters and could never recover from a 33-10 halftime deficit.

See ROUNDUP, Page C2

Albany wrestlers notch two takedowns

Cougars win Irvington and Oakland Tech tournaments, go to 7-0 in dual matches

By Mike McGreehan

Albany High School has long been a force in wrestling, and the 1999-2000 season promises more of the same.

The Cougars got off to another great start this season by first winning the Irvington Tournament and following that up last Saturday by taking the championship of the Oakland Tech Invitational.

"We've done very well so far," says Cougars coach Kermit Bankson. "We haven't lost a dual match yet."

At Oakland Tech, the Cougars (7-0

overall) had four wrestlers take first place in their weight classes while four more placed second.

Newton Casemiro, the winner at 152 pounds, grew up in Brazil where he learned both judo and the Brazilian martial art of capoeira. His training in both has helped him immensely on the mat, where he impressed both teammates and coaches — including opposing coaches.

"He was just awesome," said Skyline High coach Jerry Scheberies, who saw Casemiro at Oakland Tech. "I just enjoyed watching him wrestle. And when he gets off the mat he is so well mannered. He is

"We've done very well so far. We haven't lost a dual match yet."

Cougars coach Kermit Bankson

my perfect specimen of a wrestler."

Adds Cougars teammate Chris Schweitzer, "(Casemiro) takes down the coaches. He beats everybody. He's very good at take-downs and very good at throws."

David Yeaman, though only a sophomore, is showing his mettle at 103 pounds. Yeaman, who was first in that weight class at both Oakland Tech and

Irvington, leads the team in points. He also has 11 pins so far.

"He's probably one of the best technical wrestlers on the team," observes Schweitzer. "He's very creative."

Also placing first at Tech were Yaniv Plan at 140 pounds and Marlow Rodriguez at 215.

Second-place finishers were Jovany Duque (125), Tyson Griffin (145), Karl Moore (160) and Ben Weinstein (171).

Albany's impressive results didn't end there. Kameron Javandel placed third at 171. Also finishing third in their weight classes were Dustin Hughes (189) and Brian Reggi (275).

Joe Seltzer finished fourth at 112 pounds.

See COUGARS, Page C2

Martz named Bear of the Year

Duke grad, Piedmont resident is a true friend of Cal Golden Bear athletics

Staff report

Thomas Martz is a graduate of Duke University. But that didn't stop the Cal athletics department from naming the longtime Piedmont resident recently as its "Bear of the Year."

Cal honored Martz for his support and dedication to the Cal Athletics Marketing Committee and the development of the new Haas Pavilion.

"First of all, I'm a big sports fan," says Martz. "And I've been a great supporter of Cal for many years."

So how does a New Jersey native who attended Duke end up becoming a Cal fan?

"After graduating from Duke, I went into the Air Force," said Martz. "My last year-and-a-half brought me to Hamilton Air Force Base — which was the luckiest thing that ever happened to me. It took me about four hours to say, 'I love this. I'm staying.'"

Becoming a Cal fan was just as natural. "My wife Nancy is a Cal graduate, as is my daughter Jane and my son Tom," said Martz.

Martz, who majored in business at Duke, has lived in Piedmont since the early 1960s. Today, he is the president of the Northern California Broadcasters Associ-

"I've been a great supporter of Cal for many years."

—Tom Martz

ation, of which all the radio stations in the region belong.

"We talk to big companies and tell them how (radio advertising) in their marketing strategies," says Martz, whose Cal and Piedmont roots run deep.

Before attending Cal, both of Martz's children went to Wildwood School and Piedmont High school.

"We've been Cal supporters for the 30-plus years that we've lived in Piedmont, and this is a terrific honor," Martz says of the Bear of the Year award. "It's a great university with a great sports program for the students and student-athletes. My thanks go to athletic director John Kasser and his staff for this award."

Martz wouldn't give his age but looks ahead to more Cal thrills. "I'll be around for a lot of years to enjoy Cal and enjoy Piedmont, too," Martz promises.



NANCY AND TOM MARTZ accepted this award for Bear of the Year.

Being El Cerrito

Gauchos boys are trying to maintain the respect they garnered without the stars of last year

By Scott Strain

In a certain sense, El Cerrito is just trying to be El Cerrito, and so far it is working out.

The Gauchos boys varsity basketball team is 2-0 in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League after surviving a hard-fought 60-53 win against Alameda in the opener last Friday and a 72-57 victory at Kennedy-Richmond Tuesday night.

El Cerrito High School's Jamal Hill, who had 18 points against Alameda and 23 against Kennedy, is just trying to keep the respect his team has earned that last couple of seasons.

"There has been some change, but we still think we can do what the other (El Cerrito) teams have done," Hill said. "We have a new coach and some new players, but they all represent this jersey and it is important that (opponents) respect us."

Against Kennedy, the Gauchos (11-6, 2-0) built up a 49-32 lead through three quarters. Both teams then proceeded to light up the scoreboard for 43 points in the final period, but El

Cerrito was never in danger.

That wasn't the case against Alameda. In that game, the score was tied 50-50 with just 3:05 left in the fourth quarter. The Gauchos had tried to get the ball to Hill under the basket, but the alert Hornets cut off the passing lanes and managed several steals. Hill was never really able to get into the offensive flow in the fourth quarter and it was up to Ricky Hale to pull the game out.

Fouled on consecutive possessions, Hale converted four free throws to give El Cerrito a 54-50 lead with 2:40 left in the game.

Franco Harris scored on a short jumper for 56-50. After Alameda's Josh Adragna broke the string with a free throw for 56-51, Hale went back to the line and hit two of four for 58-51 before Jason Goodwin hit a shot for 58-53 with less than 30 seconds left. Alameda was forced to foul, and Kenneth James hit two free throws with 10 seconds left to seal the victory.

"We didn't hit our shots against their zone," El Cerrito coach Brent Daniels said, "and we didn't handle the ball all that well. We got the shots

when we needed them, but we could have played a better game."

Against Alameda, Hill scored 18 points and Hale had 16, including eight free throws. El Cerrito hit 17 of 29 free-throw attempts; Alameda hit just five of six attempts. In a seven-point victory, that was the difference in the game.

In the victory over Kennedy, Hale backed Hill's 23 points with 13 of his own. Harris had 12 points. Free-throw shooting again had a big part to play in the win — the Gauchos hit 13 free throws while the Eagles only managed two.

St. Mary's

FROM PAGE C1

utes, but caught his fifth personal foul with 3:24 to go in the game and the Panthers leading the Pilots (6-7, 0-1) by eight, 55-47.

But by then, the Panthers had settled into a tight zone and were depriving the Pilots of an inside game.

"We went into a zone because we didn't think they could shoot from the outside. It wasn't to protect our guys (from foul trouble), Caraballo said.

In fact, the Pilots didn't hit one 3-pointer (a number of shots were made a step inside the arc). But the Pilots also struggled from the free-throw line, going 13-for-24. Pilot coach Gordie Johnson thought that hurt his team most of all.

"Free throws killed us," he said. "We were 54 percent from the free-throw line and (in) a three- or four-point game, that could be the difference."

"We have to hit our free throws," forward Seth Jones said. "Free throws are the key."

That and the fact the Panthers seemed able to pop for two or three whenever they needed to.

After the Pilots turned up the press late in the first half, causing a series of Panther turnovers, St. Mary's saw a six-point lead shrink to nothing and a 31-31 tie as the buzzer sounded announcing the end of the half.

And 20 seconds into the second half, Pilot Kevin Butler capped off his team's 10-2 run with a jumper

St. Mary's boys hit 27 fourth to beat Piedmont

Panthers a little flat, but get past Highlanders

By Scott Strain

PIEDMONT — The St. Mary's boys basketball team had a great week last week, defeating McClymonds, Fremont and St. Joseph Notre Dame to set itself up as one of the favorites in the extremely even Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League.

So the Panthers (13-4, 2-0 in the ACCAL) can be excused if they were a little emotionally flat against Piedmont High School on Tuesday night, needing a 27-point fourth quarter to pull away from the pesky Highlanders 68-57 for their fourth straight victory.

from the left side, giving the Pilots the lead for the first time since early in the first period.

Now a year ago, the Panthers might not have recovered. This year, Freeman almost immediately struck for three and the lead. After a Pilot missed a pair of free throws, James Harris turned around and made two. A minute later, Dixon followed with a jump shot, widening the gap to 38-33.

The Pilots were never closer than three of the Panthers again. When Brandon Quick closed out the third period with a layup off a pass from Butler, cutting St. Mary's margin to four, 47-43, Freeman opened the fourth period by knocking down his second trey of the evening for a 50-43 advantage.

Jones scored on a putback 20 seconds later, but Victor Venters quickly answered with a bucket and a free throw.

A Pilot turnover allowed Freeman to get the ball to Harris, who sneaked inside for two and a 55-45 advantage with five minutes to go.

With a slight size advantage, the Panthers' zone denied the Pilots of an effective inside game. But despite having no one hitting from outside arc, and the club struggling at the line, St. Joe nevertheless closed to three, 58-55, when Kevin Chapman hit just outside the paint on a pass from Donovan Brewer with 10 seconds to go.

With crowd noise rising, the Pilots fouled Harris. He missed his first free throw, but made his second, all but sealing the win.

and seven assists for El Cerrito. Shepherd had 10 rebounds.

Albany's rough ride

Adriana Dominguez scored 22 points and grabbed 11 rebounds and Kim Rock added 15 points and 17 rebounds to lead visiting Salesian (10-4, 2-0 ACCAL) over Albany 62-37.

Nina Samuel scored a team-high 15 points for Albany (2-7, 0-2 ACCAL).

Kelley Chin added seven points for the Cougars. Alexis Martin had six and Tera Greene four. Glory Tang and Lily Goldschmidt added two points apiece. Chia Ling Teoh put in a free throw.

The Cougars began the league season with another mismatch against Holy Names, the favorite to win the league. Albany fell 69-26 in that contest.

Albany's Tera Greene scored 13 points in that game, including three 3-pointers.

Soccer

Heavy rain forced postponement all EBAL games Tuesday.

Panthers

FROM PAGE C1

ter, the Pilots traded baskets with the Panthers until almost four minutes had elapsed in the third period.

Then, as if on signal, the Panthers began to turn the ball over and the Pilots (3-7, 0-1) responded with points by four different players.

Down 32-23 when it all began, the Pilots cut the lead on a snake to the hoop by Jenny Leitz (13 points), a bucket off the offensive boards by Jennifer Fox, a basket and free throw by Blackwood (nine points) and a free throw by Nina Perata to pull within one, 32-31, of St. Mary's.

But that would was as close as the Pilots got.

"Some of the girls got too aggressive, so I pulled these players and put players in who were more calm on defense," Lawson said. "I wanted the whole team to settle down."

Joslyn Shelton broke up the Pilots' run with a field goal from the left wing, but the Panthers were still ahead by one, 34-33, as the final eight minutes got underway.

Unfortunately for the Pilots, the Panthers had settled down. In a wild fourth period that saw seven different players hit field goals, the Panthers began to pull away.

Shelton jump-started the charge with a quarter-opening 3-pointer from the left side. After Celeste McGruder knocked down a pair of free throws, St. Joe closed the gap to three, 39-36, on a left-side jumper by Julie Freccero and a free throw by Leitz with 6:28 to go.

Mavericks play for State Cup

Staff report

The ACC Mavericks under-13 girls soccer team will be competing in the California Youth Soccer Association-North State Cup with the initial rounds to be held on Jan. 15 and 16.

This local team will be traveling to Lemoore to play against teams from North Fresno, Central California and a Lafayette-Moraga-Orinda team.

The Mavericks played in a State Cup warm-up round robin jamboree last weekend in a series of friendlies hosted by the Sacramento United Red Storm in Sacramento.

Cougars

FROM PAGE C1

Albany might have been even more dominant had Schweitzer not injured his neck wrestling at 130 pounds. Schweitzer actually aggravated an injury suffered earlier in the week during his opening bout. Unable to turn his head, Schweitzer retired from the competition, forfeiting that match and losing any chance to advance. Schweitzer expects to be back next Monday.

UP NEXT: Albany High not only has a well-respected team, it also hosts two well-respected teams. On Saturday, the Cougars will host the Albany Freshman-Sophomore Tournament at Alameda Point. Action returns to Alameda Point the following weekend when the Cougars host their varsity tournament.

"Last year we had 450 kids for the freshman-sophomore tournament and 24 schools at the varsity tournament," said Bankson. "They're both pretty big."

Amazingly, St. Joe made just two free throws the rest of the way.

Controlling the boards and finding shooters wide-open on the other end of the court, the Panthers pounded in for field goal after field goal. Heidi Bynnes' jumper got things started, but Heidi Spurgeon racked up five points in just over a minute as the lead grew to 55-37.

How much did the Panthers control the final minutes of the game? Well, St. Mary's would have run the table except for a free throw by Freccero with 3:27 on the clock.

"It was mostly their defense," Blackwood said. "They're good hustlers."

"In the middle of the third quarter, we switched defenses to run with them," Lawson said. "We didn't think they'd be able to run with us. The girls know if we pressure them the whole game, the fourth quarter will come."

Bynes led all scorers with 15 points and had eight of her team's 46 rebounds. McGruder had eight points, four boards, nine assists and six steals; Spurgeon, Shelton and Kamaiya Warren seven each.

Leitz paced the Pilots with 13 points.

On Tuesday, the Panthers earned a hard-fought win over Piedmont (0-2 ACCAL), a team in turmoil after a coaching change just before the start of the league season.

Shelton scored 15 points and made 10 steals Tuesday to lead the Panthers. Courtney Carey added 13 points.

St. Mary's also received valuable contributions from Spurgeon (six points), Warren (five), McGruder (four), Bynnes (two) and Jennifer Scott (one).

The Mavericks tied Fairfield 2-2 in the first game, then beat the Vacaville Extreme 3-1 in the second game on Saturday.

The next day the Mavericks defeated host Sacramento United Red Storm 2-1. The Mavs finished by beating San Juan Spirit (Sacramento) 1-0 to go 3-0-1. This was a good effort by the team heading into the State Cup this weekend.

"We're determined to play our best and move on to the second round of play," says coach Lori-Ann Wagner.

The Mavericks are comprised of girls from Oakland, Berkeley, Albany, El Cerrito, Richmond and San Pablo. They compete at the highest level of play in district.

The team currently holds fourth place in the Schwann's USA Cup Premier International Tournament. The Mavericks have finished in the middle of their flight over the last three seasons.

Roundup

FROM PAGE C1

Tiffany Shepherd was the Gauchos' second leading scorer with nine points. Danielle Riley added four. Annaleise McGrew, LaTasha Hagler, and Jasmine Boughton scored two points apiece. Maya Cervantes-Yoshida added one free throw.

The Gauchos' Tyeisha Brown did not play because of an injury.

El Cerrito's second loss came on the heels of a 79-44 Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League season-opening loss to Alameda last Friday.

In that game, the Hornets opened a 28-7 lead after one period, then cruised to the win.

All-leaguer Jessie Robison sent six 3-pointers down the chute and wound up with game high 20 points for the Hornets. Justine Mack had 10 rebounds, Lailani Tirona scored 11 points, had seven boards and 10 assists and Amy Thieme had 11 points, five assists and six steals in the win.

Novlin had 17 points, 10 rebounds

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With Westphal sagging, fouls (one on a technical foul) crept back to within 41 at the end of the first half. DaShawn Freeman, who was benched for fouls in the first half, hit in the third quarter.

Kellen Dixon scored fourth quarter to give St. Mary's first lead since early in the first half. Westphal put for 44-43, but then Expendable skills really were. Panthers put on an eight that decided the game.

Cold-shooting John Westphal first of two threes to give the lead back at 46-44. He converted a steal. Westphal converted another shot to home a three-pointer to tie.

Piedmont briefly cut to 54-50 with about four minutes left. But Sharper hit another shot that was just about to raise the margin to 64-54 left when Westphal finished.

The scoring was pretty even. Victor Venters had 12 points and Harris finished with 11 points. Dixon had 12 points and had 10.

"We had one good shot that was enough," Caraballo said. "We were just off. We were on Friday and we can't have good days of practice."

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Arts

'Hurricane' fails to do much damage



RUBIN "HURRICANE" CARTER (Denzel Washington) was convicted of a crime he didn't commit

By Karen Hershenson

Having Denzel Washington portray beleaguered boxer Rubin "Hurricane" Carter sounded like one of the better ideas to come out of Hollywood.

The actor is so consistently good, and the story so compelling, that it would seem a sure-fire winner. For those fuzzy on their boxing history, Carter was poised to win the midweight title in 1966, when he was falsely accused of murder and sent to prison for 19 years.

What followed were ongoing legal battles, books (with a new biography coming out), not to mention the involvement of celebrities who found in Carter's case a perfect outlet for their liberal outrage. A Bob Dylan ballad ("Hurricane") has immortalized the boxer in much the same way as R.E.M.'s "Man on the Moon" has Andy Kaufman. Sound-track heaven.

I've heard that song many times,

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "The Hurricane"

■ **STARRING:** Denzel Washington, Liev Schreiber, Dan Hedaya

■ **RATING:** R (violence, language)

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 2 hours, 6 minutes

■ **WHERE:** Opened at area theaters

■ **GRADE:** B-

and wondered about the facts regarding Carter's struggle. But I left "The Hurricane" frustrated, and full of questions. While the movie has powerful dramatic moments, there's also a nagging feeling that director Norman Jewison ("Moonstruck," the original "Thomas Crown Affair") has airbrushed the story's edges to create an ultra-sympathetic main man.

Not to criticize Washington. The actor does his utmost — as he always does — portraying the many sides of Carter, from a hostile youth to a focused fighter and, ultimately, a Zen prisoner who meditates and wears dashikis in his cell. The part calls for a broad emotional arc, as the boxer learns to channel his anger into a less passionate survival mode.

His nemesis in the film is a racist police detective (a pinched-lipped Dan Hedaya), who spends the bulk of his law-enforcement career harassing Carter. Jewison would have us believe that he was solely responsible for landing him in jail, once as a young boy and again as an adult. I found this character incredibly frustrating; how could one person be so committed to nailing another? It's like something from "Les Misérables."

Then there are the Canadians: two men (Liev Schreiber and John Hannah) and a woman (Deborah Kara Unger), who live with a young

black boy they plucked from the streets of New York to educate. It's never clear who they are, what they're doing with this child, if any or all of them are lovers, but most of all, why they would become so obsessed with Carter's case.

In the movie, the mysterious quartet actually moves to the United States and becomes instrumental in finally getting Carter released. After two failed appeals, he was set free by a federal judge, who ruled that racism had tainted the original trial. The boy, Lesra Martin (Vicellous Reon Shannon), triggers flashback segments when he plucks Carter's autobiography from a used-book bin and becomes fascinated with the story.

Little is said about John Artis, a young boxing fan who had the misfortune to be in the car when Carter was pulled over after the murders at a Paterson, N.J., bar. When the ex-

See HURRICANE, Page C4

HOT SHEET!

■ East Bay performer Kim McMillon will stage her one-woman show "Confessions of a Thespian" at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 12, at Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Her show will run through Feb. 12. Cost \$12 advance, \$15 at the door. Margo Hall directs. Call 510-525-3948.

■ The Blue Room Boys, a swing band, will perform at 9 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 14, at the Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Cost \$11.

EVENTS



BERKELEY RESIDENT Claudine Jones will star as Andree in a comedic version of "Gigi," which begins a four-week run at the Town Hall Theatre in Lafayette on Jan. 21.

Cody's Books— Ben Fong-Torres, Jan. 20, 7:30 p.m. The author will discuss his book "Not Fade Away: A Backstage Pass to 20 Years of Rock and Roll." Free. 2454 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-845-0837.

Gaia Bookstore— Donna Eden, Jan. 17, 12:30 p.m. The author discusses her book "Energy Medicine." Leonard Nathan, Jan. 18, 12:30 p.m. The author discusses his book "Grace and Mercy in Her Wild Hair." John Ruskan, Jan. 19, 12:30 p.m. The author discusses his book "Emotional Clearing."

Susan Griffin, Anita Barrows, Diane DiPrima, John Tarrant and Al Robles, Jan. 20, 7:30 p.m. A discussion on the book "What Book!?" — Buddha Poems from Beat to Hip-hop.

Linda Breen Pierce, Jan. 21, 12:30 p.m. The author discusses her book "Choosing Simplicity." Free. 1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-848-GAIA or 510-548-4172.

Lawrence Hall Of Science—"Balancing Acts: Providing for Today, Preserving for Tomorrow," closing Jan. 17. Learn about sustainable technologies in agriculture, energy and manufacturing through real-life global success stories. Includes lots of hands-on activities.

"ChemMystery," ongoing. Survey a crime scene using scientific tests, such as fingerprinting and handwriting analysis, and figure out who-dunit. There are separate scenarios for different age levels.

"Math Rules!" ongoing exhibit. A math exhibit of hands-on problem-solving stations, each with a different mathematical challenge. Make mathematical ice-cream cones, use blocks to build three dimensional structures, make dodecagon pies from a variety of mathematical shapes and stretch mathematical thinking.

"Within the Human Brain," ongoing installation. Visitors test their cranial nerves, play skeeball, master mazes, match musical tones and construct stories inside a simulated "rat cage" of learning experiments.

"Laser: The Light Fantastic," ongoing exhibit. Make a laser light show, work a supermarket-style laser, examine holograms and stop a laser beam barehanded.

"1492: Two Worlds of Science," ongoing exhibit. Explore European and Native American science and technology at the time of Columbus's voyage, through activities with number systems, navigation tools, map making, computer games and a replica of the rocking deck of the Nina.

SPECIAL EVENT—"Atoms Family" Demonstrations: "The Howls and

See EVENTS, Page C4

Independent talent

San Francisco's film festival still highlights the unusual

By Karen Hershenson



CAL PERFORMANCES presents the Dance Theatre of Harlem in a production called "The Four Temperaments," a celebration of the group's 30th anniversary season. The group will perform Feb. 8-13 at UC-Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. Call 510-642-9988.

Only at San Francisco IndieFest can you find a drama directed by Ralph Malph from "Happy Days," as well as one that prominently features the Dumbarton Bridge.

Launched last year to showcase American independent films, the festival continues to grow, with 19 features poised to screen through Jan. 14 at the Victoria and Lumiere theaters in San Francisco and the Fine Arts Cinema in Berkeley.

Jeff Ross, office manager for the San Francisco Film Society, started IndieFest to celebrate the Bay Area's wealth of filmmaking talent. But work from all over appears in this year's eclectic lineup, with each feature preceded by a cartoon — a nod to the early days of moviegoing. Hold onto your ticket stub, it will get you into parties after several screenings.

There's "Juiced," billed as a tribute to "hash-slinging sasspots" who tell nasty customers and rude short-order cooks where to shove it. Also the mockumentary "Dill Scallion," a kind of country-music "Spinal Tap" with Jason Priestley and another "Happy Days" alum, Henry Winkler.

In a more serious vein is closing-night selection "Pups," a ragged drama about a couple of young teens who commit robbery and take hostages. This film, by British di-

FESTIVAL PREVIEW

■ **WHAT:** San Francisco IndieFest

■ **WHERE:** Victoria and Lumiere theaters, S.F.; Fine Arts Cinema, Berkeley

■ **WHEN:** through Jan. 14

■ **HOW MUCH:** \$7.50 evening screenings, \$5.50 matinees; passes available

■ **CALL:** 415-929-5038

rector Ash, premiered two days before the Littleton, Colo. high-school massacre; an eerie bit of timing. Among the cast are Burt Reynolds and Leonardo DiCaprio's brother, Adam Farrar. Ash also did the equally explosive Bang.

The documentary "Smoke and Mirrors: A History of Denial," chronicles the cigarette's rise in popularity and explores — a la "The Insider" — how the tobacco industry dealt with the realization that its highly successful product was also deadly.

The former Ralph Malph, whose real name is Don Most, will fly up from Southern California to present his feature, "The Last Best Sunday." A powerful drama about a migrant worker and a preacher's daughter, thrust together after a violent incident, it isn't something one would expect from Richie Cunningham's loudmouth sidekick.

Most shot the film in 18 days for less than \$1 million, but it has a pol-

See INDIE, Page C4

BILL MANN

Media Notes

Deal of the century?

The AOL Deal: Having once worked for America Online (as its TV critic), I can personally attest that AOL didn't harm ability to buy Time-Warner this week by overpaying its employees. A colleague at the San Francisco office who lives in the Oakland area told me she'd had a similar experience with the big online service. AOL throws nickels around manhole covers. Even saying the AOL stock I bought (at price) been berry berry good to

Expect more Internet companies (like Yahoo!) to now buy up additional media companies. Thanks to high-speed Net access, appears certain that the company is the platform from which Americans will be getting their movies, radio and television in the near future. Traditional broadcasters and theaters will be among the losers.

This week's first big merger of the century is also one that could prove to be among the most significant. And now that AOL and Time-Warner will wed, these cross-media opportunities spring to mind:

■ A People mag cover of hot film actress Gwyneth Paltrow and her latest beau could be headlined: "You've Got Male!"

■ An inspirational new HBO movie on the plucky AOL founder's early business setback when he was fired from Pizza Hut will be titled "I'm Dismissed."

■ A special supplemental January edition of Time will have this new headline: "Forget It, Einstein: We Case Is Our Man of Century." ■ A wacky Cartoon Channel short, "There's a Bug in My World," appears every time AOL crashes.

■ A lucrative new Sports Illustrated online soft-porn site appears, titled "S.I.-berspace." This big money-maker will feature Swimsuit edition photo shoots considered risque for the print edition.

■ Wrestler Hulk "Hollywood" Hogan, a Turner contract player, will appear on AOL's opening screen naming, "Welcome ... to My World!" ■ As subscribers sign off AOL, they'll hear, "Tha-tha-tha-tha's all, folks!"

■ Nightly CNN/AOL interactive feature "Larry King Live Online" becomes AOL's most popular romance chat room, with Larry giving sage advice.

■ Cardinal Sins: Some things I've seen and heard lately have caused me to lose a lot of respect for Stanford and its athletic program. (I can't attend Cal, by the way.)

I had an image, one partly derived from a PBS special, of Stanford as that rare place that actually took the concept of scholar-athlete seriously. But two weeks ago, USC's Jay Leno paid a visit to the Rose Bowl to ask Stanford and its football players some questions on camera. It was on the level.

Stanford's quarterback didn't know who the governor of California was. And two of his teammates had no idea at what temperature water boiled. Leno couldn't believe either. Not exactly a P.R. coup for Stanford. Cal backers must have loved it. It was inexcusable and embarrassing.

Then, last Friday, I visited the Stanford campus for the first time in over two decades, with two Alameda friends; we were there for a graduation ceremony. As we drove into the lovely Palo Alto campus, we were met with a tacky-looking Rose Bowl billboard that looked like some long right out of a theatre lobby. It looks like it's an ad for The Terminator, someone noted. Which it is.

Later, as I sat outside the Stanford library sipping a coffee, several football prospects walked past with their Stanford handlers. I overheard several, and many of these guys could barely form a sentence. What a joke. Alas, even at Stanford, it appears, there's one academic standard for some athletes and another for the other students.

Having said the above, I'm still sure Stanford is a fine school, but one that, like so many schools today, has opened itself up to the corrosive effects of big-time TV money and of admitting students who are there only because they

See MANN, Page C4

TLC: Three's a crowd

During Oakland show, group bonds with audience, if not each other
By Tony Hicks

Everything on the surface seemed well and good at TLC's big production in Oakland's New Arena on Saturday, Jan. 8. But something unseen was clearly out of whack—both with the group itself and the disjointed way they chose to put their show together.

All three members—Lisa "Left Eye" Lopes, Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins and Rozonda "Chilli" Thomas—did all the things a successful group at the peak of its success should. They brought the big stage, the best lights, and more dancers and musicians than a mere mortal group could afford. It's all part of the equation when you're doing so well.

They also did everything by the book for putting on a good show. Everyone was smiling, dancing and singing with energy, like it really mattered. They kept most of the twenty-something-and-younger crowd out of their seats all night. Connecting with the fans seems to be a priority with TLC—twice they brought people onstage to sit or dance through songs, and they endlessly slapped hands in the front row.

But something vital was missing: a group togetherness. Most people have heard about the grumblings from Lopes that she's unhappy and may be contemplating going solo. At least one televised interview with Watkins has confirmed that she and Thomas have had ongoing problems with Lopes. Though Saturday's show was the equivalent of saying and doing all the right things, Watkins and Thomas rarely looked at Lopes. They almost never came within arm's reach of her. Twice Watkins and Thomas embraced onstage, once

CONCERT REVIEW

when Lopes left for a costume change, the other when Lopes was far away from them onstage toward the night's end.

Whatever behind-the-scenes trouble the trio may have been experiencing didn't dampen Lopes' enthusiasm—as least toward the crowd. Though the most controversial of the three, she also was the best-received Saturday.

By the night's second song "Silly Ho," Lopes was leading all the performers in a brief conga line around the stage after a semispectacular opening that had all three rise up through the floor of the stage. There was the expected amount of coordinated dancing with up to six hired dancers at any time, and a few sincere moments between the group and their fans that made them much more likable.

But despite the energy, the show was punctuated with disjointed, almost pointless moments. For example: Early on, Lopes made a big production of dragging a huge bag of "fan mail" onstage, which was inexplicable "stolen" by a masked, caped villain during a costume change—only to be returned at show's end, when they opened it and plucked out T-shirts they then threw into the crowd. A nice gesture, but not worth the build-up.

The trio had previously found a groove in then show, with a succession of hits like "Ain't Too Proud to Beg," "What About Your Friends" and "Baby Baby Baby." However, the massive crowd sing-alongs couldn't conceal that, though the girls were indeed singing through some unintentional musical fuzz during their animated dance routines, they also had some help from piped-in vocals. One of the show's best segments came after the silly mail theft, when the group returned to do "Creep" in the same pajama outfits worn in the

video. They then perched on chairs for a sultry (and, probably to the dismay of a few parents, extremely adult) version of "Red Light Special."

TLC's greatest strength has always been that the three have discernible personalities and vocal styles that come together to make something that collectively is much more valuable than the individual parts. But unfortunately, they took that individuality to an extreme when, at mid-show, each took a 10-minute stab at a solo routine.

Lopes in particular was really looking to prove something (she actually juggled at one point). "I must expose the Beethoven in me," she said, before climbing up to bang out a few rough piano chords that sounded like bad carousel music. Thomas took a different path, singing to a blushing 12-year-old boy she brought onstage. Watkins then led dancers in a rousing song-and-dance routine that got about as close to Broadway as TLC can.

Toward show's end, the trio had dancers act out a couple of songs, including "Waterfalls," which featured the song's video playing above the singers while dancers played out the same scenes below.

TLC should have been performing front and center, leading their fans in a sing-along of their biggest hit at the end of the show. Unfortunately, they were almost an afterthought.

The most refreshing part of the night was opener Christina Aguilera—surprising, considering you can't turn on the television anymore without seeing her or another of pop's countless blond teen singers.

Aguilera has fearless stage presence for a 19-year-old, plus a powerhouse voice that cuts through the teenybopper screaming.

Though she doesn't do anything spectacular or really different, her live performance clearly puts her ahead of her young peers.

Events

FROM PAGE C3

Whys of Energy," closing Jan. 17. Daily demonstrations of energy and electricity concepts and devices. Monday-Friday, 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Free with admission.

FAMILY WORKSHOPS—Registration is required and each child must be accompanied by an adult. Call 510-642-5134.

ONGOING PROGRAMS—Free after museum admission.

Macintosh Computer Lab, ongoing. A chance for children to explore age-appropriate software and the Internet. For children age 5 and up accompanied by an adult. Saturday and Sunday, 12:30-3:30 p.m.

Biology Discovery Lab, ongoing. In the renovated Biology Lab visitors may hold and observe gentle animals. Saturday and Sunday, 1:30-4 p.m.

HOLT PLANETARIUM—No knowledge of astronomy is required for these shows. Programs are recommended for ages 8 and up; children under age 6 will not be admitted. Admission is \$2 in addition to regular museum admission.

"Native American Astronomy," through Jan. 30. Observe moon cycles and changes in the sunrise and sunset positions on the horizon to see how these practices help Native Americans stay in tune with the harmonies of nature. Saturday and Sunday, 1 p.m. and 2:15 p.m.

"Constellations Tonight," ongoing. Using a simple star map, learn to identify the most prominent constellations for the season in the planetarium sky. Saturday and Sunday, 3:30 p.m.

"Saturday Night Stargazing," ongoing. See the moon, planets, star clusters and galaxies through astronomical telescopes, weather permit-



ERIKA JOHNSON is featured in Nikolai Kabaniaev's "The Puz" during Diablo Ballet's "Millennium Celebration" on Saturday at UC-Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. The program will feature the deux from "Lady of the Camellias," set to Chopin. Tickets \$20. Call Cal Performances at 510-642-9988.

ting. At the Lawrence Hall of Science Plaza. Saturday, 8-11 p.m. Free.

Tickets: \$6 general; \$4 seniors, students and children ages 7-18; \$2 children ages 3-6; free children under age 3. Daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Cen-

tenial Drive, University of California, Berkeley. Call 510-642-5134. www.lhs.berkeley.edu

See EVENTS, Page 1

Mann

FROM PAGE C3

corrosive effects of big-time TV money and of admitting students who are there only because they can play ball.

I'd wanted my daughter to check out Stanford in 1997 when she graduated from high school; I'd hoped she might even attend S.U. She'd been named Most Valuable Athlete in her school and was also a National Merit finalist and a straight-A student. She received a letter from Stanford's athletic department inviting her to tour the campus. She not only chose not to visit Stanford, but to go to a school, Reed College, that has banned intercollegiate athletics in its charter as "an unnecessary distraction from academics." ("I'm not a jock," she once told me, "I'm an athlete. There's a difference.")

I've never felt better about her decision than I did down at Stanford the other day. She made the right choice.

(I just hope most athletes at Cal at least know Gray Davis' name.)

Don't-miss TV: The staid New York Times rarely gushes or raves about anything. But here's what the august and usually restrained daily had to say about HBO's "The Sopranos," which opens its second season Sunday at 9 p.m. on the pay-cable channel:

"The greatest work of American

pop culture of the past quarter century."

Now, I doubt that "The Sopranos," which is about a modern-day mob family in New Jersey, is quite that good. I do know it's almost certainly the best thing on television right now. And if anything, it's even better this season. "The Sopranos" is that rare combination of great writing, fine acting, and high production values. Don't miss it.

Sticking Point: Former KGO-TV and KRON weatherman Steve Newman is back in the Bay Area after a year of pursuing a unique post-broadcasting career—big-rig truck driving. Newman's natural-disasters update and column, "Earth Watch," is featured on CNN's high-traffic Web page. Newman, who says he logged 85,000 miles on the road last year, called to tell me about a funny traffic report he heard driving an 18-wheeler through Nashville.

"It said 'Traffic is backed up because of a stick fight on the Bryley Parkway,'" laughed Newman. So, what's a stick fight? "Just what it sounds like. Two guys standing on the side of the road hitting each other with sticks." Newman: "I hadn't heard the term 'stick fight' in years." Newman, by the way, is a Florida native.

CNET Radio: A new radio station hits the air this morning. CNET Radio can be found at 910 AM, the old KNEW frequency, and

former KMEL newsman Brian Cooley will do morning drive and program the station, which will specialize in high-tech news. Cooley's morning co-anchor will be former ABC-TV tech guru Gina Smith. Former KRON newsman Emil Guillermo will do a non-tech midday show. I'm all in favor of new radio formats, especially in the news and talk field, but CNET strikes me as a belated attempt by traditional broadcasting to forestall the coming tidal wave that is Internet and satellite radio. It's also an opportunity for its co-owners, AMFM Broadcasting and CNET, to further cash in on the current dot-com ad bonanza.

Finally today, I had lunch the other day with Petaluma-based author and political consultant Brian Sobel. Sobel has had exclusive access to convicted murderer Richard Allen Davis in San Quentin and is now writing a book about the Polly Klaas case called "Innocence Lost." Davis watches a lot of TV in his Death Row cell, Sobel says, and he asked the infamous killer to name his favorite local TV anchor. Davis' reply: Terilyn Joe, who was jettisoned by KGO-TV on Christmas Eve. Knowing that Davis' holiday season might have been a little less joyous made my day.

(Questions? Comments? E-mail Bill at Newsman@aol.com)

FROM PAGE C3

fighter calls him "my hero" toward the end of the movie, we realize how he's been overlooked.

Recent news reports dismiss this image of Carter as a fairly model citizen who was the victim of a single racist police detective. Apparently he served four years in prison as an adult for three muggings, crimes that later hurt his murder case. Furthermore, the Hedaya character is a fabrication, a way to personify the many

detectives, prosecutors and judges who contributed to racial bias in the courtroom.

But many films use artistic license to tell a story, so that's not the only problem. Mostly, it feels at times ponderous and overly ambitious. Jewison covers too much ground, hopping from Carter's childhood to strong black-and-white boxing sequences, then the courtroom, before finally settling into prison-cell reality.

Yet it is there that Washington's talent shines brightest, especially during a psychotic episode in soli-

tary confinement. Thrown into a hole for 90 days, the fighter tries to hold onto his spirit coming to the realization that he must find a way "to do the deed."

Rod Steiger once again plays an eccentric judge, as he did in the 1961 film "Inherit the Wind." Melanie Griffith vehicle "Crash and Burn" (1999) is a lawyer who runs for the hills.

"The Hurricane" could have been a great movie, but doesn't quite mark. Everything's too Hollywood, the characters too easily polarized to ring true.

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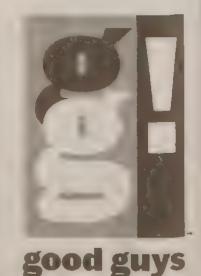
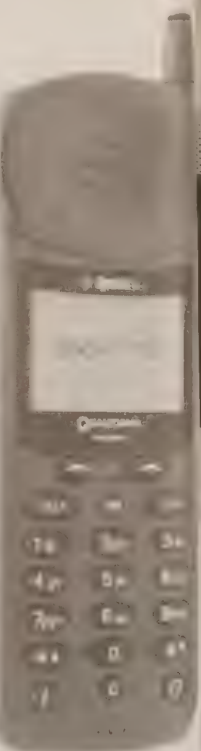
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It doesn't get any gooder.

Indie

FROM PAGE C3

ished feel, thanks to a seasoned director of photography and strong performances from Douglas Spain ("Star Maps") and newcomer Angela Bettis, who will also appear in "Girl, Interrupted" and the upcoming "Bless the Child" with Kim Basinger.

"I hope both of them have long careers and become big stars, so it will help our film," says Most. "If you don't have marquee names in your cast and you're in a small film, it's hard for the distributors to jump aboard."

At 46, he's found a niche directing stage productions and now films, but Most admits there were tough times when he left "Happy Days" after seven seasons, fearful of being typecast.

"I decided I really needed to make my flight then, but it was a rude awakening, it was like hitting a brick wall when I was trying to do the things I wanted to do," he says. "Back then, those in the TV world were sort of looked on as second-class citizens."

He went on to portray a psychiatrist on the television series "The Crow," and appeared in Ron Howard's "EdTV." In a stroke of synergy, yet another "Happy Days" vet, Marion Ross, has a small-but-pivotal part in "The Last Best Sunday."

Most provides this year's glam-

our quotient (last year it was the guy who played Ducky in "Pretty in Pink"), but that isn't to slight the local talent.

A South Bay commute years ago inspired Berkeley filmmaker Charles Koppelman to make "Dumbarton Bridge," a lyrical drama about a black Vietnam vet confronted by a daughter he abandoned after the war. This character works in salt- evaporation ponds near the bridge, which makes for sweeping vistas of seldom-seen parts of the Bay. Carefully selected tracks from John Coltrane, Art Neville and other artists add to the film's meditative quality.

Going back and forth, Koppelman says he was struck by the otherworldly appearance of the terrain surrounding the bridge. "It was sort of betwixt and between San Francisco (and San Jose); you could see it twinkling over there. ... But you weren't really in either place, you were sort of in this never-never land."

Film buffs have alerted him that "Harold and Maude" was filmed in the same area, and that the bridge can be seen in some scenes. Adding to the excitement, the mayor of Newark came to visit the set one day and handed out pens and calendars.

Koppelman, 48, had done industrial films and documentaries on the Teamsters, New York school reform and the Squatters Movement. But it was while working on a Bill Moyers

special, "Circle of Recovery," that the seeds for this film were planted. Along with the inspirational commute, he met men coping with drug and alcohol addiction who helped shape the characters in "Dumbarton Bridge."

"I care about community and social values," says Koppelman. "Documentaries are more overt; with features, you actually have to unlearn some of this stuff. You have to step back from presenting issues to tell personal stories."

The film has been hitting the festival circuit since last spring, but he was looking forward to local screenings because most of his cast and crew live in the area. He praised IndieFest, for providing an outlet for the Bay Area's many directors, writers and actors.

Adds organizer Ross: "There are a lot of films coming out that just have no venue. ... I like introducing people to new things."



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Let's Swing and Jitterbug; 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. intermediate; four-week dance classes beginning the

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La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., continues its January Children's program with Ingrid Noyes performing folk songs, train songs, and old-time songs for the entire family, on Saturday Jan. 15, 10:30 a.m. Admission: \$4 adults \$3 children (\$10 Max per family)

Kids and their adult companions can explore the University of California Botanical Garden with Docent Lois Paul the last Sunday of every month at 1 p.m. You will visit a section of the Gar-

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bimonthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information

The Claremont Branch Library, 2940 Benvenue Ave., presents the Claremont Branch patrons and library staff on Friday, Jan. 21 for an evening of laughter and fun, as they try to solve a murder mystery. The library will be the site of "Another Case at the Claremont," written and directed by Thomas Lynch and featuring the Eastenders Theater Company. Everybody's invited to join in the drama as well as solve the crime. This program is intended for adults and will

See CALENDAR, Page C6

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Calendar

FROM PAGE C5

be limited to 75 participants. The program begins at 7:30 p.m., but clues will be distributed beginning at 7 p.m. For more information, call 644-6880.

The Crucible, an educational collaboration of arts, industry, and community, hosts its first birthday party with the Fire Feast Festival. The event is a benefit in three acts. The first act is: dining with Dante/Semi-formal dinner. The second act is: Arts of Fire/benefit silent auction and the third act is Bands and Djs. The fundraiser includes festive foods and cocktails.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-0808.

The North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst, presents a Millennium Party with music and son by the Toru Saito and Band. Refreshments will be served at 1:15 p.m. For additional information call Maggie or Suzanne at 644-6107.

Overeaters Anonymous meet Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin Avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? For further information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave., Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Civil Rights activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington, P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA., 94701.

"Work Buddies", volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic; 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays, free clinic at the Academy for Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief; 1-800-642-9355.

SMART project; the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-In-Action lets you make

friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-In Center in Berkeley; serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

Exhibits

ACCI Gallery, 1652 Shattuck Ave., presents "Reflective Images," a group exhibition of six bay area artists, Jan. 21 - Feb. 26. The exhibition features the photography of Barbara Gibbs, Ira Lapidus, Mario Savioni, Susan Homes Schwartzbach, Catherine Stone and the glass of Michael Sosin. An artist reception takes place Jan. 21, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Call 843-2527 for additional information.

"Serial Monogamy," a mixed media art exhibit, opens Jan. 20 through April 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Communications Technology Center, 2201 Broadway, second floor. Participating artists include Lisa Evans, Nancy Fasciani, Shannon M. Jaffee, Joanna Katz, Karen Marquardt, Linda Nease, Dorothy Nissen, Cathy Perillo, Diane Rusnak. Call 647-3513 for additional information.

The Art of Living Black (TAOLB) Window Project, a free exhibit in store front windows adjacent to the Tribune Building, TGIF and Tony Roma's restaurants at Jack London Square in downtown Oakland. This windows display is part of the ongoing Artshop Foundation's Windows Project, curated by Augusto Fernols. For more information call 724-9274.

Bay Area Black Artists, an exhibit of more than 50 emerging and established artists, is on display at the Richmond Art Center's Main Gallery and South Gallery, 2540 Barrett Ave. from Jan. 25 through April 1. A free reception for the artists is Jan. 29 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Noon to 4:30 p.m. Closed Sunday. The exhibit is in conjunction with a self-guided open studios art tour Saturday and Sunday, March 4 and 5 in various East Bay cities. For more information call 724-9274.

"New Landscapes," by David Steinhart is on display at the YWCA, UC-Berkeley, 2600 Bancroft Way, through Feb. 27. The acrylic paintings are from the Water's Edge series depicting in luminous detail the boundary between the water and the land. Viewing hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Call 848-6370 for evening and weekend hours or additional information.

The Photolab Gallery, 2235 Fifth St., continues its exhibition of photographs by eight Photo Instructors from Oakland's Studio One Art Center. The exhibit is free. Hours: Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Saturday: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, closed. Call 843-6999 for additional information.

Jenny Lee and Monica Marini, "Two Women Creating," open their 2716 Russell St. studio. Both women are artists dedicated to their craft and currently sharing teaching positions at Park Day School in Oakland. Each has spent the past twenty plus years living and living the creative process. All work will be for sale. For additional information call 644-9341.

The Albany Arts Committee exhibits "Into the Light Paintings by Kenel" continuing through Feb. 24, at the Albany Community Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave. Call 524-9283 for additional information.

The UC-Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archives, 2625 Durant Ave., presents the third Matrix exhibition "Teresta Fernandez/Matrix 182 supernova" continues through Jan. 30. Fernandez is a New York-based artist who creates sculptural installations that manipulate the audiences' sense of physical space in relation to architectural form. Call 642-0808 for additional information.

"Snowmen in Summer" a solo exhibition by Carrie Lederer takes place at the John F. Kennedy Arts Annex, 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, Gallery hours: Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information call 649-0499.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information. New Pieces Gallery presents a list of artists for the year 1999. Located on Solano Avenue, New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Literary Events

Poetry Flash@Cody's, 2454 Telegraph Ave., presents a poets Sarah Anne Cox and Elizabeth Treadwell on Wednesday, Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m. Donation: \$2. For additional information, call 845-7852 or 525-5476.

GAIA bookstore and community center, 1400 Shattuck Ave., presents Donna Eden author of "Energy Medicine" on Monday Jan. 17, 12:30 p.m. Eden explores techniques for working with the body's energy systems to optimize physical vitality and mental acuity. She reveals practical ways to tap into the body's instinctive ability to heal itself. Call 548-4172 for additional information.

The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Allston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after

that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

Meetings

Soroptimist International of El Cerrito meet on Jan. 18, 12:15 p.m., at Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, El Cerrito, 7901 Cutting Blvd. Call Barbara Lanier, 527-7070 for additional information.

The Berkeley Camera Club meets every Tuesday evening, 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Participants share slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. Call Wade for information, 531-8664.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters, The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) meets every Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano below Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information. **Joy of Yiddish:** Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information. The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Dr. Brian Kaye, a rheumatologist, has treated many patients with various types of arthritis and will be available for questions. For additional information call 204-4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together at Avator Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

Spirituality and Healing, Voices of Healing Story Circles. Spiritually oriented healing group for people living with life-threatening illness. Meets second Wednesday of each month in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for information.

State Health Toastmasters Club meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment, 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships. Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley;

(415) 461-5337; \$20.

Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12 step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

TOPS: 9:30 a.m., Mondays, Take Pounds Off Sensibly. Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858.

Avator Metaphysical Toastmasters, meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 643-7645.

Toastmasters, noon - 1 p.m. Tuesdays; stand up and say what you mean; practice with the toastmasters; 700 Heinz Ave., Berkeley; 883-6708.

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to

5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, 2001 Dwight Way. Details: 204-4503.

Music

American Bach Soloists urday, Jan. 15, 8 p.m. at the Alameda Church, Dana Avenue. Jeffrey Thomas, presents virtuoso vocalists by Bach and Buxtehude, and Jennifer Ellis, soprano, Menak, counter-tenor, Paul bass-baritone, John The Bauguess, trumpets. Tickets: Call 415-392-4400.

The New Century Chamber presents the work of Chopin from Russia and Finland, Joonas Kokkonen and Pekka Tchaikovsky. The concert on Thursday, Jan. 20, 8 p.m. at the Congregational Church, 2241 Way. Tickets: \$30 and \$20. For additional information, call (415) 848-1235.

Instituto Pro Musica da Silva presents its thirteenth Annual Dia de Concert Cycle, Saturday, p.m. at St. Joseph the Worker, 1640 Addison St. This is a

See CALENDAR, P.

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Events

FROM PAGE C4

REI Berkeley—through Jan. 27. Series of lectures on hikes and outdoors equipment.

Cross Country Skiing: Get Ready to Go! Jan. 19, 7 p.m. Rich Davies reviews how to select equipment and clothing for all aspects of nordic skiing including diagonal striding on track, skating, backcountry touring and telemarking.

"Climbing the Seven Summits," Jan. 20, 7 p.m. A slide presentation by climber Bob Hoffman, featuring the majestic summits of Mount Everest, Denali, Elbrus, Everest, Kilimanjaro, Kosciuszko and Vinson.

"Hiking the California Desert Trail: Through Anza Borrego, Joshua Tree, the Mojave and More," Jan. 27, 7 p.m. A slide presentation by Steve Tabor of Desert Survivors, featuring highlights from his re-

connaissance trips along 500 miles of the trail.

Free unless otherwise noted. 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-527-4140.

San Francisco Indie Fest—through Jan. 14. The San Francisco Independent Film Festival is back for a second year with an updated roster of 19 cutting-edge new independent feature films.

FINE ARTS CINEMA
Jan. 14, 5:15 p.m.: "Smoke and Mirrors: A History of Denial."
Jan. 14, 7:15 p.m.: "Dill Scallion."

Jan. 14, 9:30 p.m.: "Pups."
"Pups" after party, Jan. 14. At Thalassa, 2367 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

Tickets: \$7.50 general; \$5.50 matinees; \$75 pass to all the films. At 2451 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 415-820-1580 or 415-421-TIXS or www.sfindie.com

The Golden Gate Geographic Society 2000 Travel Film Mini-Series—"Switzerland!" A look at this alpine republic by road, boat, train and cable car while traveling from valleys to mountain tops and from lowland vineyards to highland cheese-making regions. Produced and presented in person by Clint Denn.

Jan. 15, 2 p.m.: Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. Tickets: \$8. Call 800-247-GGGS.

West Coast Live—Join the studio audience as Sedge Thompson hosts musical guests, authors and others for his live radio broadcast.

Jan. 15, 10 a.m.: Jazz singer Paula West and her band, author Gail Tsukiyama, pianist Gwendolyn Mok, and more. At the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley.

Tickets: \$12. Call 415-664-9500.

John F. Kennedy University Arts Annex—Sara Bates, Jan. 21, 7:30

p.m. A discussion with the Cherokee artist, whose work is both traditional and contemporary, personal and universal. Part of Transformative Arts Dialogue Nights.

Free admission. Berkeley Business Center, 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-649-0499.

A.C.C.I. Gallery—"Reflective Images," Jan. 21-Feb. 26. A group exhibit of photography and glass by six Bay Area artists.

Artist Reception, Jan. 21, 5:30-8 p.m.

Free admission. Tuesday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-843-2527.

Bucci's Restaurant—"Times Ten," Jan. 16-Feb. 11. An exhibit of paintings, prints and sculptures by 10 emerging Bay Area artists.

Opening Reception, Jan. 16, 3-5 p.m.

Free admission. Monday-Friday, 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Saturday, 5:30-9:30 p.m. 6121 Hollis St., Emeryville. Call 510-547-4725.

California College of Arts and Crafts—"Black Box," Jan. 18-Feb. 25. A series of recent gallery-based film and video projections.

Jan. 18-Jan. 22: Maria Marshall. Reception, Jan. 19, 7-8 p.m.

Lecture, Jan. 19, 8 p.m., in Nahl Hall.

Jan. 25-Jan. 29: Silvia Kolbowski. Reception, Jan. 26, 7-8 p.m.

Lecture, Jan. 26, 8 p.m., in Nahl Hall.

Feb. 1-Feb. 5: Arthur Jafa. Reception, Feb. 2, 7-8 p.m.

Lecture, Feb. 2, 8 p.m., in Nahl Hall.

Feb. 8-Feb. 12: Dara Friedman. Reception, Feb. 9, 7-8 p.m.

Lecture, Feb. 9, 8 p.m., in Nahl Hall.

Feb. 15-Feb. 19: Jordan Crandall. Reception, Feb. 16, 7-8 p.m.

Lecture, Feb. 16, 8 p.m., in Nahl Hall.

Feb. 25, 8 p.m.: Silt. Free. Tuesday and Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Oliver Art Center, 5212 Broadway, Oakland. Call 415-551-9210.

Creative Growth Art Center Gallery—"The Last Picture Show," closing Jan. 14. An annual exhibit of drawings, paintings, prints, sculpture, ceramics, art furniture and rugs.

Free admission. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 355 24th St., Oakland. Call 510-836-2340.

East Bay Municipal Utility District—Mohsen Janatpour, through Jan. 28. An exhibit of paintings.

Free admission. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Oakland Administration Building, Second Floor Lobby, 375 11th St., Oakland. Call 650-574-6272.

See EVENTS, Page C11

Calendar

FROM PAGE C6

oration of choral music from the Spanish-speaking world, performed by Coro Hispano de San Francisco and Conjunto Nuevo Mundo. Tickets: \$15, general admission; \$12, seniors and students; with children 16 and under free. For additional information and to charge by phone call 415-431-4234.

The Distaff Singers, an established East Bay Women's chorus, is seeking new members. No auditions required, just a love of singing. Classical, pop, jazzed. Broadway. Rehearsals Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Call Michelle 601-5624, or L.J. 482-1677.

Dickson Distones, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fretless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

The Jazzschool presents Sunday afternoon concerts at 4:30 p.m. at the Jazzschool LaNote Restaurant, 2375/77 Shattuck Ave. The concerts feature appearances by nationally-renowned artists and top jazz musicians living in the Bay Area. The talented faculty will be featured including Mike Zilber, Bill Douglass, Jenna Marmina, and Christy Dana. Tickets for Sunday concerts are \$12 general, \$10 students/seniors, \$6 Jazzschool students and children up to 12 years of age. Advance reservations are recommended. Call 845-5373 for additional information.

Kenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information.

Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542

Outdoors
Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers "Scribble Time," a technique that helps participants understand themselves and to find focus. The group meets on Tuesdays by appointment and is free to YWCA members. Call 848-6370 for additional information, leave a message for Anne Levine.

East Bay Regional Park Botanical Garden Tilden Park, presents regular tours, seven days a week. Week days 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and Sundays 12 p.m. Special tours by appointment. Call 841-8732. For a schedule of upcoming classes call 925-820-1021.

Support
American Schizophrenia Association—Alliance for the Mentally Ill (ASA-AMI) a free support group for families of children with mental illness meet Tuesday, Jan. 18 from 7 to 8:45 p.m. at the Claremont Branch Berkeley Library, 2940 Benvenue. The group offers parents and other family members a chance to share information. For additional information, call ASA-AMI at 841-8361.

The Grief Counseling group offers help to those who are overwhelmed with pain and grief associated with the death of a loved one. Many people suffer in isolation. The holiday season is especially bad. No one is turned away. Call 893-1104.

The City of Berkeley Portable Meals program desperately needs drivers to deliver 15 meals once a week to home-bound seniors. Call 644-8590.

The North Berkeley Senior Center is also seeking volunteers to work in its gift shop, coffee bar and dining area three to four hours, one day a week. Call 644-6107.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education group presents Dorothea Dorenz, a state certified massage and movement therapist, who teaches self-healing methods. This methods is sensitive and adaptable to people who are experiencing a great deal of discomfort, and to those who are no longer experiencing major pain. Bring a small pillow, and wear loose, comfortable clothing. For directions or more information, call 204-4503.

Stroke Support Group for Stroke survivors, their families and friends. No advance reservations required. Meets the first Tuesday of each month, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way.

Lecture/Workshop

The Department of Near Eastern

Studies and the American Research Center in Egypt (ARCE), Northern California Chapter, co-sponsors a lecture on Sunday, Jan. 23, 2 p.m. in the Annenberg Auditorium, Cummings Art History Building on the Stanford Campus. Palo Alto Dr. Patrick Hunt presents a lecture on "Egyptian Genius: Stoneworking for Eternity." Call 527-9746 for additional information.

"Studio Photography and Stock Photography" is the subject of the Brown Bag career talk at the Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way, on Tuesday, Jan. 18 from noon to 1 p.m. The guest speaker is Valerie Massey, a freelance and studio photographer. She explains her work in portraiture, editorial and other types of photography. The fee is \$3 at the door. For additional information call 848-6370.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public as well as the different programs the center offers, including the great variety of workshops. The orientations are held every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. The Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. For more information call 848-6370.

"What is Meditation," is a peaceful and practical introduction to the basics of meditation. The free seminar takes place at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, 2352 Shattuck Ave. Prigato Dove is the facilitator. Call 644-0861 for additional information.

Emotions Anonymous: Twelve-Step meetings every Sunday at 8 p.m. Call 236-8228 for Berkeley location.

Religion

Lehrhaus Judaica at the Reutlinger Center, 2736 Bancroft Way, offers more than 100 classes on Judaism: Hebrew, Bible, History, Culture, Prayer, starting in February. Call Lehrhaus Judaica 845-6420 for a free catalog.

Theater, dance and film

Contra Costa Civic Theatre, 951 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito, presents "Harvey," Jan. 21 through Feb. 26. Performance times: Fridays and Saturdays 8 p.m.; Sunday matinees, Feb. 6 and 13, 2 p.m. Harvey, written by Mary Chase and directed by Elaine Jannell, is a comedy about a man, his sister, his niece and his pal Harvey, a six-foot-tall invisible rabbit. Tickets: \$10 general admission, \$6 youth, 16 and under with current ID. For reservations call: 524-9132; Group Sales: 524-6654. Web page: www.cct.org.

"Actors Ensemble of Berkeley presents "Prelude to a Kiss," on Friday, Jan. 21, 8 p.m. at Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck. The production features Marie Bouquet and Matthew M. Gardner as Rita and Peter, young newlyweds. The comedy/drama takes place Friday and Saturday evenings through Feb. 19, with a performance on Thursday Feb. 17, 8 p.m. Admission is \$10 with discounts for groups of 15 or more. For reservations, call 528-5620.

The Berkeley Repertory Theater, 2025 Addison St., presents "Civil Sex," writ-

ten and directed by Brian Freeman, opening Jan. 14 and continuing through Feb. 11. Call 845-4700 for ticket and additional information.

The La Esca's Subterranean Theatre, 1834 Euclid, presents a one-woman show, "Spark," written and performed by Nancy Wright Cooper, through Jan. 28, 8 p.m. Tickets: \$12 general and \$8 students/seniors. For additional information, call 843-7810.

Berkeley Repertory Theatre presents "Metamorphoses." The play based on the myths of Ovid runs through Jan. 16 at 8 p.m. at Zellerbach Playhouse, UC-Berkeley campus, Dana Street and Bancroft Way. Call 845-4700 for schedule and ticket information.

Swing Dance Classes! Learn East

coast swing and Lindy Hop with Michael and Persephone of Shagtime Dance Instruction, on Mondays at the Work Studio, 2566 Telegraph Ave. Beginning Lindy Hop runs 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. East Coast Swing from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and beginning Lindy Hop 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, at The Beat, 2560 Ninth St. Classes run as a monthly series. For more information, call Michael Marangio at 528-7858.

Volunteers

Parental Stress Service, Inc. seeks volunteers to serve as Telephone Hotline Counselors. The agency offers supportive counseling to families who need

to be heard. To learn more about volunteer opportunities call 893-9230.

Volunteer at the Crucible, 1035 Murray St. Sharpen skills, and meet new people in the community. All talents are appreciated. The Crucible is an educational collaboration of arts, industry and community. Call 843-5511 or e-mail crucible@jps.net for more information on how to get involved.

There is an immediate need for Home Delivered Meal volunteers at the "Open House" Senior Center to deliver noon day meals to the homebound in Kensington, El Cerrito, and Richmond Annex. For more information, call Nichols at 215-4342.

Breast Cancer Action, an advocacy and activist organization aimed to in-

spire and compel the changes necessary to end the breast cancer epidemic, is seeking volunteers. A wide variety of volunteer opportunities, including events, activist and task force help, and office work during the week, are available. Call 415-243-9301, for additional information.

Berkeley's Women's Daytime Drop-In Center needs off-site volunteers to help with mailings, fund-raising events, and holiday programs. Training is provided for all volunteers who can devote three-and-a-half hours a week to working at the Center. Other on-site opportunities include answering phones and performing administrative functions. Those wishing to volunteer should call 466-5663 or 548-6933.

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Dining & Entertainment

AN ADVERTISING FEATURE

Jazz musician Norman Brown performs at Kimball's East

Norman Brown's atmospheric guitar stylings have won him ardent admirers, an enduring presence on jazz charts and a bounty of industry awards.

Norman Brown is as much known for his powerful live performance and party-vibe on stage as he is for his tasty chart-topping releases.

Norman Brown's name is mentioned in the same sentence with master guitarists Wes Montgomery and George Benson and reviewers shower him with adjectives like "ultra-funky," "smooth," "agile," "hot," "exciting" and "exceptionally gifted."

Brian Soergel of *The Press Enterprise* described the artist's music, saying, "The sinewy, sliding melodic lines wrap themselves around steady percussion. Up-tempo grooves and smoldering love songs. Occasional wordless vocals float over the intoxicating brew. It's a sound as smooth as thick taffy,

wrapped around a stick."

Bill Kohlhaase, in a special to the L.A. Times, wrote of a typical Norman Brown set, "Not only did Brown's solos spit and steam. they told a story, carrying a lyricism that belied the frenzy of his presentation. Even the most accessible and direct material, such as Brown's 'After The Storm,' reverberated with strength and string-picked excitement as he moved into improvisational mode."

Brown's impact on audiences and critics reflect a lifelong passion for his instrument. Brown hasn't been far from a guitar since he was eight years old, when the Kansas City native fell in love with his brother's acoustic 6-string.

His brother, recognizing Brown's authentic interest handed over the instrument to him and took up the drums.

Steeped in the music of Jimi Hendrix, The Isley Brothers and Kool and the Gang, Brown's

direction took a turn when he heard guitar player Wes Montgomery for the first time and experienced an immediate connection with his music.

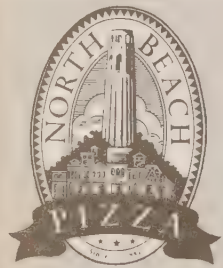
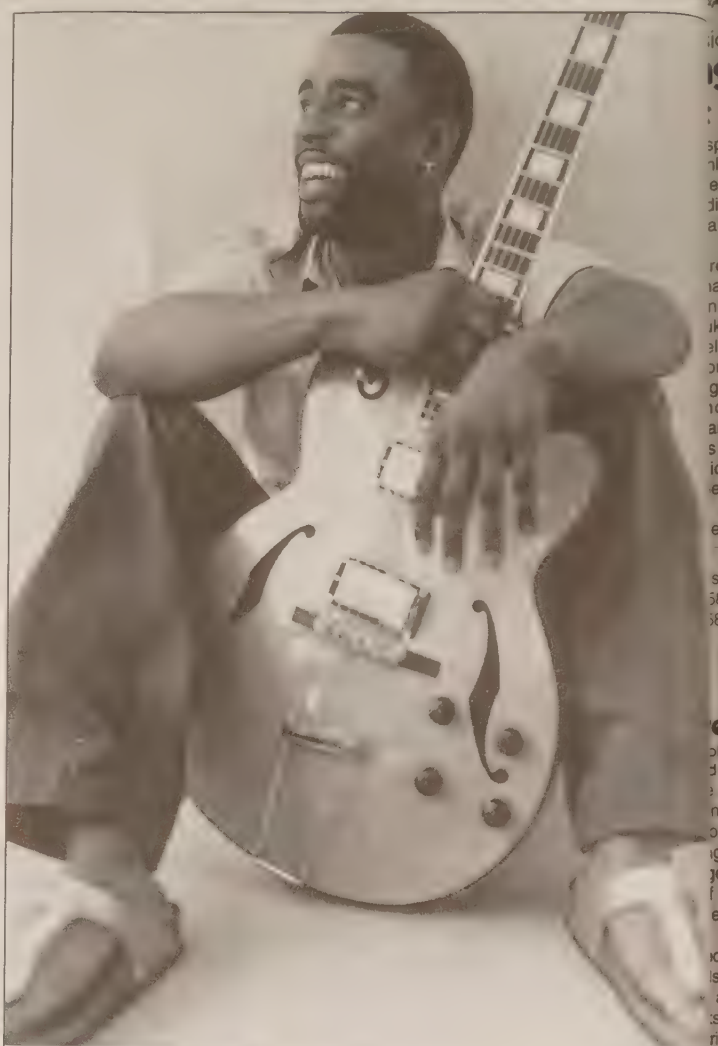
Brown's father was also a Montgomery fan and would challenge Brown to learn Montgomery's songs by holding out the promise of a car for the night and other such rewards. Brown observes,

"It actually motivated me enough to really go ahead and learn how to play the style that I had fallen in love with. That's how I got started on my musical journey. From there I played with local bands, doing material by Earth, Wind And Fire and other R&B acts, ultimately ending up in a quartet, playing a lot of contemporary Jazz tunes. along with some standards."

In the mid-'80s, Brown relocated to Los Angeles to study music formally at the Musician's Institute in Hollywood.

After graduating, Brown became an instructor on staff at the institute and hooked up with the short-lived MoJAZZ label, recording three enormously successful and critically-acclaimed solo albums, before segueing to his current association with Warner Bros Records Jazz.

Norman Brown appears at Kimball's East on Friday, January 14, Saturday, January 15, and Sunday, January 16 for two shows, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.



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1144 Ballena Blvd., Alameda (510) 522-6200 Located on the water

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Pasta Pelican

2455 Mariner Square Dr., Alameda (510) 864-7427 Behind Webster St. tube

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Kamakura

2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda (510) 521-9121 Between Park & Broadway

Sushi House

2226B South Shore Ctr, Alameda (510) 865-9999 across from the Warehouse

Sapporo Sushi Boat

1465 Webster Street, Alameda (510) 749-8461 • Fax (510) 749-8364

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2400 Mariner Sq., Alameda (510) 521-3768 Behind the Webster St. tube

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www.greatmex.com

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Julia Morgan Theater

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Margarita's are made to tickle your taste buds. The variety is outstanding, the quality and flavor unbeatable: a house margarita, golden, original, blue, pink, sweet, fruit, and of course, the ultimate.

Sounds like we're on our way to a great Fiesta and more: Great luncheon specials Monday through Saturday; the hottest Happy Hour in paradise; not to mention, the best place to spend a Monday night watching football in the NFL. Dine indoors or out.

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The Reef Restaurant is located one mile south of Jack London Square off 880 freeway. Free parking and a complimentary guest dock make this a good destination by land or sea.

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Scott's Pavilion Room

RSVP (510) 444-5969

Bridal Fae on Thursday, February 24, 2000 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

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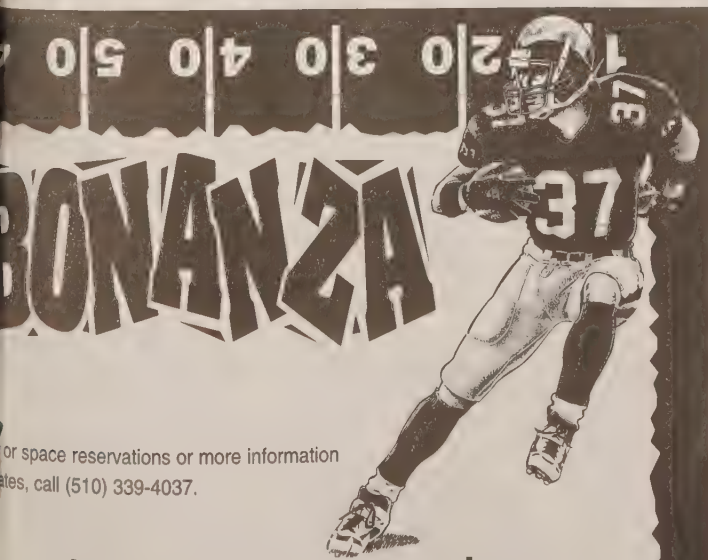
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— Diane Ackerman



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Scampi
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at 180 Golf Club in
t Hill, CA. 94523 is
registered by the fol-
owner(s)
ssen
1 Club Rd #347
t Hill, CA 94523
business is conducted
individual
/s/ Beth Jessen
statement was filed
County Clerk of Con-

November 30, 1999
s November 30, 2004
the Journal #0205
December 24, 31
January 7, 14, 2000

FILED
November 27, 1999
STEPHEN L. WEIR,
County Clerk
TRA COSTA COUNTY
FRISH KLANE, Deputy
FILE NO. 99-7686

TIIOUS BUSINESS
STATEMENT
me of the business
CENTER FOR HOPE is

Business is conducted
individual
s. Beth Jessen
statement was filed
County Clerk of Con-
ta on date indicated
stamp above
Business commenced on
November 27, 1999
s November 27, 2004
Journal #0206

December 2, 1999
STEPHEN L. WEIR
County Clerk
TRA COSTA COUNTY
RISHA KLEAN, Deputy
FILE NO. 99-8004

TIIOUS BUSINESS
ME STATEMENT
one of the business
LAKES THERAPEU-
MESSAGE located at
one Tree Way in Anti-
94509 is hereby reg-
by the following own-

business is conducted
individual
/s/ Janice L. Payne
statement was filed
County Clerk of Con-
on date indicated
stamp above
business commenced on
December 2, 1999
December 2, 2004
Journal #0207
December 24, 31
January 7, 14, 2000

FILED
December 6, 1999
STEPHEN L. WEIR

FILE NO 99-7900
TIOUS BUSINESS
ME STATEMENT
ne of the business:
MANUFACTURING
OLOGIES located at
winbridge Circle in
t Hill, CA. 94523 is
registered by the fol-
lowner(s):
Payne
nbridge Circle
t Hill, CA. 94523
business is conducted
individual

on date indicated
stamp above.
Business commenced on
November 29, 1999
s November 29, 2004
ne Journal #0210
December 24, 31
January 7, 14, 2000

FILED
November 19, 1999
STEPHEN L. WEIR,
County Clerk
NTRA COSTA COUNTY
ly E. TURNER, Deputy
FILE NO 99-7749

TIOS BUSINESS

Legal
Publi

<p>...the impacts of the encroachment on the District's</p>	<p>By E. TURNER, Deputy FILE NO. 99-7749</p>	<p>Legal El Centro Journal 0234 Publish January 14, 21, 26, 2000</p>
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Events

PAGE C7

Christensen Heller Gallery — Exhibition, through Feb. 29. An exhibit of paintings.

Go Reichmuth, through Feb. 29. An exhibit of custom furniture. Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. 5831 El Cerrito Ave., Oakland. Call 510-855-1111.

Heritage Square — "Times Ten," through Feb. 11. An exhibit of paintings and sculptures by 10 Bay Area artists. Call 707-467-1675. Opening reception, Jan. 16, 3-5 p.m.

Well Hung, through Feb. 11. An exhibit of new work by a group of artists. Call 510-524-0745.

Free admission. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. At 6121 Hollis St., Emeryville.

Hollis Street Project — "10 Dimensions," Jan. 16-Feb. 11. An exhibit of work by seven artists, a printmaker, and two photographers. Call 650-949-2511. Opening reception, Jan. 16, 3-5 p.m.

"Click!" through Feb. 10. An exhibit of new work by 11 Bay Area photographers. Call 510-582-8735.

Open Into Two Thousand, through Feb. 11. An exhibit of various media by 10 artists. Call 510-654-1111.

Free admission. Daily 8 a.m.-6 p.m. At 5900 Hollis St., Emeryville.

Ala Institute — Artists' Annual Exhibition, through Feb. 25. An exhibit of works by various artists. Free admission. Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Workshop Media Center, 1060 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-549-2977.

Bay College — Photography exhibit, through Jan. 27. An exhibit by Roger Bowman, Jr., Mark Wiley, Dean Freeman, John Wiley, and Sandy Lombardi. Free admission. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Art Center, 900 Fallon St., Oakland. Call 415-3586.

Pena Cultural Center — "The Storm," through Feb. 10. An exhibit of paintings and media by TSAK. In Cafe. Free admission. Call 510-849-2568.

Hills College — "The 100 Languages of Children," through Oct. 10. An exhibit of art by children of Reggio Emilia, Italy. At Regio Building Bender Room. 1010-430-3105. Free admission. Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Art Museum, 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. Call 510-430-2164.

New Pieces Gallery — "New Millennium Challenge," through Feb. 3. An exhibit of quilts by various artists. Free admission. Monday, Wednesday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. At 1597 10th Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-527-1111.

Alay Ground Gallery — "Millennial Views," through March 5. An exhibit of paintings, mixed media, photography and baskets by East Bay women artists. Free admission. Daily, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 2058 Mountain Blvd., Montclair, Oakland. Call 510-339-0348.

Waywick Gallery — Emilie Clark, through Feb. 6. An exhibit of works by Clark. Free admission. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. 1316 10th St., Berkeley. Call 510-27-1214.

Nabot Observatory and Science Center Planetarium — COSC is an interactive teaching and learning center focusing on astronomy and the relationships of all the sciences. Observatory, planetarium, exhibits, natural park setting are a place for students, teachers, and the public to imagine, understand, and shape their future through science.

Tickets: \$5 general; \$4.50 seniors; children age 6-17; free children under age 6. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. at 4917 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. Call 510-530-3480, or www.cosc.org

Bay Area Rail Trails — A network of trails converted from unused railroad corridors.

ALONE GREENWAY — A 3.75-mile paved trail converted from the old Alameda, Topeka and Santa Fe rail lines. The trail runs under elevated tracks from Conlon and Key Streets in El Cerrito to Virginia and Key Streets in Berkeley. Call 510-4382, 510-528-5759 or 510-644-1111.

SHEPHERD CANYON TRAIL — A three-mile paved trail converted

from the Sacramento Northern Railroad line. The tree-lined trail is gently sloping and generally follows Shepherd Canyon Road. Suitable for walkers and cyclists. Begins in Montclair Village behind McCaulou's Department Store on Medau Place and ends at Paso Robles Drive, Oakland. Call 510-238-7275.

Berkeley City Club Tours — Guided tours through Berkeley's City Club, a landmark building designed by architect Julia Morgan, designer of Hearst Castle.

Tickets: \$2. The fourth Sunday of every month except December, noon-4 p.m. at 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley. Call 510-848-7800.

Caldecott Tunnel Tour — Take a walking tour through the giant ventilation ducts that run above the bores of the Caldecott Tunnel and learn the intricacies of running a tunnel system.

See the jet-engine size fans pump fresh air into the tunnels at more than 50 miles per hour and visit the Control Station where crew members monitor the tunnels. The two-hour tour includes a movie on how the tunnels were built and an opportunity to watch the lane switch. Tours for six or more people. Reservations required. Ask for Ray or Sherman to make a reservation.

Free admission. Wednesday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at Caldecott Tunnel, state Highway 24, Oakland. Call 510-286-0315.

Camron-Stanford House — The Camron-Stanford House, a stately,

1876 Italianate-style home which was once the Oakland Public Museum, has been restored and furnished with appropriate period furnishings by the Camron-Stanford House Preservation Association. It is the last Victorian house on Lake Merritt's shore. Tours available on Wednesday and Sunday.

Tickets: \$4 general; \$2 seniors; \$1 juniors age 12-18; free children under age 12. Wednesday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 1-5 p.m. at 14th Street and Lakeside Drive, Oakland. Call 510-444-1876.

Golden Gate Live Steamers — Small locomotives, meticulously scaled to size, run along a half mile of track in Tilden Regional Park. The small trains are owned and maintained by a non-profit group of railroad buffs who offer rides.

Free admission. Trains run Sunday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Rides: Sunday, noon-3 p.m., weather permitting. Grizzly Peak Boulevard and Lomas Cantadas Drive at the south end of Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. Call 510-486-0623.

Lake Merritt Boat Rides — Gondola Servizio — Weather permitting. Take an hour-long ride around Lake Merritt in a real Venetian gondola. The boats of Gondola Servizio were built by hand in Venice and can be reserved either open or with an enclosed cabin. Each gondola seats up to six people and reservations are required.

Marco Polo: \$55 per couple, \$10 for each additional person. Bring a

picnic lunch and/or a beverage to enjoy on the cruise. Casanova: \$65 per couple, \$15 for each additional person. Includes picnic-style antipasto snacks and glassware for beverages you bring. Promessi Sposi: \$225. This is a wedding package which includes two rowers in 17th-century attire, decorations and free passage for a photographer.

Call 510-663-6603.

Tour Lake Merritt on one of two wheelchair-accessible pontoon boats. Learn about the history of the lake and a bit about Oakland. The tour takes about 30 minutes and runs all

year, weather permitting. Reservations required. \$20. Call 510-444-3807.

Lake Merritt Sailboat House, 568 Bellevue Ave., Oakland.

The Buddy Club — Magic Mike, Jan. 23, 11 a.m. Author of "The Klutz Book of Magic." Tickets: \$7 general; free children under age 2. Albany Community Center Theater, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Call 510-652-7469.

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory — Scientists and engineers guide visitors through the re-

search areas of the laboratory, demonstrating emerging technology and discussing the research's current and potential applications. A Berkeley lab tour usually lasts two hours and includes visits to several research areas.

Popular tour sites include the Advanced Light Source, The National Center for Electron Microscopy, the 88-Inch Cyclotron, The Advanced Lighting Laboratory, and The Human Genome Laboratory. Reservations required at least two weeks in advance of tour.

Free admission at UC-Berkeley. Call 510-486-4387.

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Doctors Medical Center Diablo Conference Room
Pinole Campus - 2151 Appian Way

Thursday, January 20th - 10 a.m.

Doctors Medical Center Vale Conference Room
San Pablo Campus - 2000 Vale Road

Doctors Medical Center To register for this free program, call
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Tenet HealthSystem

For more information call 925.952.2613

A product of Contra Costa Newspapers

Reservations open for first chamber 2000 event

Reservations are now being taken for the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce's first big event of the year 2000—the organization's 64th annual Installation and Awards Dinner.

Set for Friday, Jan. 28, at Spenger's Fish Grotto in Berkeley, the event will feature the installation of new officers and directors, the presentation of awards to several individuals and firms for outstanding service to the chamber in 1999, and newly-elected Mayor Mark Friedman speaking on "The Future of Business in El Cerrito."

Cost of the event will be \$19.50 per person, and those attending will have their choice of pork loin, petrale sole or pasta primavera.

Those wishing to attend must make reservations and indicate their menu choice by telephoning the chamber at 233-7040 on or before Jan. 26.

This event will get under way at 6:15 p.m. with a champagne reception hosted by incoming chamber President Michael Klinger and his wife, Jeannie, followed by dinner at 7 p.m.

Serving as master of ceremonies and installing officer will be former El Cerrito mayor and former chamber manager Ken Berndt.

Officially taking office on Jan. 28 will be the chamber's new leader for this year, Michael Klinger, president of the Sunset View Cemetery Association.

He will be taking over from outgoing President Bill Kerber, who is completing his third term in office. Klinger will be starting his third term as president, having served as head of the local business organization in 1992 and 1993.

Others who will take office at this event include Rena Bruton, first vice president; Janet Jolley, second vice president; and Charles Weaver, secretary-treasurer.

Also scheduled to be installed are nine members who won seats



NEW MAYOR MARK FRIEDMAN will speak at the Jan. 28 chamber installation dinner.

on the chamber's board of directors in an election held last month. They include Charlie Weaver, Rena Bruton, Marsha Conwill, Sil Addiego, Michael Klinger, Bea Doherty-Vincent, Marge Collins, Larry Seidell and John Olivero.

These newly-elected board members will join June Boblitt, Wil Chun, Jack Freethy, Janet Jolley, Bill Kerber, Harry Kiefer, Bill Morrow and Larry Sanchez, all of whom will be starting the final year of their two-year term on the board of directors.

Book sale extended

Sale of entertainment books for the year 2000—originally scheduled to close Jan. 13—has been extended, it was announced this week.

The books, which feature hundreds of 50 percent discounts and two-for-one offers on dining, special attractions, sports events, various services, airfares and hotel and motel stays, are still available at the El Cerrito Chamber office at 10848 San Pablo Ave.

Look for dues statements

Members of the El Cerrito chamber are being asked to be on the lookout for this year's reinvestment statements, which should arrive in the mail sometime next week.

In urging members to pay their dues for the year 2000 as soon as possible, chamber Manager Sewall Glinertnick pointed out that reinvestment money was the major source of funds used to finance chamber operations throughout the year.

"We neither ask for or receive funds from the city," he said, "and as a result depend solely on our members to supply the cash necessary to fund our organization's projects and improve conditions in the business community."

He went on to point out that reinvestments can be paid in two installments, if desired.

Locators makes merger move

Locators Real Estate Inc., member of the El Cerrito Chamber for over 20 years, merged recently with Coldwell-Banker Bartels.

In announcing the merger, well-known local Realtor Sil Addiego—a longtime head of the local Locators office at 11155 San Pablo Ave., said that in the future "people will be able to find me here as usual."

There is an interesting twist to the recent merger since the head of Bartels Realty and a partner originally founded Locators here in 1962.

Addiego joined the firm as manager in 1975, and three years later he and two partners bought the company from Bartels co-founder Mack Hammett.

Active on the local business scene, Addiego is a member of the West Contra Costa County Association of Realtors.

After serving as a director for several years, he was elected president of that organization in 1981.

Joining the El Cerrito Chamber

in 1979, Addiego was named president of the local business organization in 1984.

Presently he is a member of the chamber's board of directors, a post he has held for many years.

Also active in civic affairs, he is a member of the El Cerrito Rotary Club and the Richmond Golf and Country Club.

Associate members off to active start

Three associate members of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce opened the year 2000 with new officers and special honors.

The El Cerrito Art Association, which is starting its 10th year as a chamber associate, installed new officers last month.

New leaders include Colin Murphy, president; Phyllis Myers, vice president; Dorothy Champion, secretary; Eileen Hammons, treasurer; Sylvia Falcon, two year director; and Earl Hazelton, one year director.

Masonic Lodge officers

The El Cerrito-Albany Masonic Lodge, an associate member of the local chamber for eight years, started this year with a new slate of officers and newly appointed committees.

Officers for the year 2000 include Lester W. Bryan, Master; Lawrence K. Duvick, senior warden; James B. Barbero, junior warden; James H. Mobley, treasurer; Earl E. Hogg, secretary; Donald F. Potter, chaplain; Donald Markert, senior deacon; Rod Haney, junior deacon; Horace Potter, Marshall; James F. Crooks, senior steward; and Jack Owens, tiler.

Named to committees for 2000 were Don Markert, Jack Owens and Rudolph Coffman, audit; Larry Davick, education; James Barbero, Jim Brooks, Dan Hariton, Earl Hogg and Bruce Wesler, finance; James Barbero and Earl Hogg, delinquent members.

El Cerrito Chamber

By Sewall Glinertnick

a member of the board of directors. After closing his chapter, Odlin switched his membership from active state associate membership, and as the Chamber's officer.

Odlin and his wife, continue to live in El Cerrito; the parents of four children and grandparents of 12.

New CCCT season

El Cerrito's Contra Theatre, an associate in the chamber since 1981, its 40th anniversary season, Jan. 21.

Their first show of the season will be the timeless "Harvey," which was the CCCT's inaugural season.

Harvey will be presented p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, 21-Feb. 26, with 2 p.m. matinees scheduled on Feb. 13.

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Kids Kalendar

Nature

Thursday Birding at Tilden Nature Area on Thurs., Jan. 13 from 7:30-9:30 a.m. Winter visitors and year-round residents will be our quarry today. Beginners welcome, we have binoculars to loan. For ages 10+ years, Info: (510) 525-2233

Monarch Butterfly Walks at Ardenwood Historic Farm on Sat., Jan. 15 at 11 a.m., 1, 2, & 3 p.m., and on Friday, Jan. 21, from 3-4 p.m. Join us for a tour of the monarch overwintering site where clusters of butterflies hang from the branches of the eucalyptus trees. Meet at the Granary. Fee: Tues., Wed., and Sat. \$1, ages 18+; 50 cents, ages 4-17; Thurs, Fri., and Sun., \$5, ages 18-61; \$4 ages 62+ and ages 13-17; \$3.50 ages 4-12

Family Day at the Farm at Tilden Nature Area on Sat., Jan. 15 3:30-4:30 p.m. Bring the whole gang to visit with resident livestock and see what foods come from the farm. We'll practice all of our favorite barnyard noises in song. All ages welcome. Free; Info: (510) 525-2233

Family Winterwalk at Tilden Nature Area, on Sunday, Jan. 16, 2-3:30 p.m. Many animals awaken for the winter season. Let's look for salamanders and other creatures of the woods and water on this easy ramble. Be prepared for mud. (4+yrs) Free; Info: (510) 525-2233

Tilden Mini-Rangers, at Tilden Nature Area on Tuesday, Jan. 18 from 3:15-5 p.m. Find out how it feels to be a Ranger! Join us for an active afternoon of nature study, conservation and good, old-fashioned rambling through the hills, woods and waters. Dress to get dirty; bring a healthy snack to share. For 9-12 year old girls and boys (9-12yrs) Free; Info: (510) 525-2233

Newts in the New Year at Tilden Nature Area on Sat., Jan. 22 from 2-3:30 p.m. Explore the exciting life cycle of the native Newts. They live and breed in the Bay Area. We'll hike around to find them. Wear good boots to get wet. Meet at the EEC. (all ages) Free; Info: (510) 525-2233

Wildlife on the Farm at Ardenwood Historic Farm on Sat., Jan. 22 from 2:30-4 p.m. Take an easy stroll around the farmyard discover the variety of wildlife here on the farm. Fee: Tues., Wed., Sat. \$1 ages 18+; 50 cents ages 4-17; Thurs, Fri., Sun. \$5 ages 18-61; \$4 ages 62+ and 13-17; \$3.50 ages 4-12

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The Auto Section

The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

January 14, 2000

Section D

Auto Shorts Briefs from around the automotive world [D2]

Ask the Auto Doc Junior Damato knows what ails you — or your ride [D3]

Show News You've got box seats to the Detroit Auto Show [D3]

'00 Montero sports all but kitchen sink

By Marion Wechter

NORTH AMERICAN AUTO WRITERS SYNDICATE

Just when I thought I had abdicated my role as queen of road ragers, some Sheila babbling on a cell phone crossed in front of me. My 2000 Mitsubishi Montero Sport was almost standing on its nose in the intersection. Great brakes.

Mitsubishi is shooting for star quality with its updated restyled interior and exterior Montero Sport 2000.

According to Pierre Gagnon, executive vice president and chief operating officer for Mitsubishi Motor Sales of America, prospective SUV customers demanded changes, and Mitsubishi rose to the challenge.

Montero Sport is no lean mean looking machine. It has a bold handsome exterior, and sports an interior that is designed with the driver in mind.

Sporting a new grille, front bumper, fog lights to name a few embellishments, there is style and substance with both interior and exterior.

A V-6 engine is offered for the first time with every Montero Sport model. The ES, LS and XLS models have a 3.0-liter 24 valve V6 engine, with an output of 173-horsepower.

The Montero Sport Limited has a 200-horsepower engine, 3.5-liter SOHC 24-valve V6.

A new 3-link rear coil suspension pro-

See MONTERO, Page D2



ALL 2000 MONTERO SPORT vehicles come with a responsive "optimum shift control." At \$29,327, this SUV gets the job done in style.

Drive, She Said



By Denise McCluggage

"Buyers can expect more for less money, and they demand it."

Luxury items hit economy market

It's the V story for the vehicles of 2000. V for value and versatility. The value comes from what the industry calls "higher content" available now for just small increases or even reduction in prices. Buyers can expect more for less money, and they demand it. Carmakers are responding by moving traditionally upscale features down line.

Not many years ago, a luxury car buyer could impress his relatives by clicking a remote button that unlocked his car doors. Increasingly, that feature is standard or an option on entry-level vehicles. Power windows, air-conditioning, anti-lock brakes, stability control, "smart" air bags, leather seats, sunroofs, sophisti-

See DENISE, Page D2

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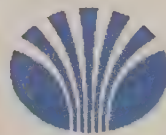
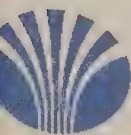
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New plastic pickup beds withstand pounding, pelting

The first thing most pickup truck buyers do is invest a few hundred dollars to put a plastic liner inside the truck bed to guard against damage. Tom Jensen, a General Motors truck engineer, thinks this is a needless thing. That's why he invested 12 years of his career in developing a pickup bed made of plastic composites.

Jensen's work will finally pay off next fall when 2001 Chevrolet Silverado trucks coming off the assembly at GM's Ft. Wayne, Ind. plant will have optional composite pickup beds. It's one of those brilliant innovations that is so sensible you have to wonder why it hasn't been done before.

One reason is that the development work is costly. GM actually

Down the Road

By Herb Shuldiner

dropped the project in the early '90s when the giant corporation was strapped for cash during a severe downturn in auto industry sales.

But Jensen never gave up on his dream and in 1993, funding became available for his pet project again. So Jensen's team resumed development work on the plastic pickup bed at the GM Research Laboratories.

That's about the same time that Chevrolet started to define the parameters for the current generation of the Silverado. Chevy engineers became convinced that a plastic pickup

bed would be a good addition to the new model.

But it took years of development that included incredible torture tests to make sure the plastic bed would withstand the kind of abuse pickups get in the field.

Forty-eight pickups with composite beds were subjected to 1.2 million miles of testing in a two-year period. The plastic box was tested under the most severe conditions: in phosphate mines, tar sand fields, and construction sites. Testing took place at temperatures as low as -40 F. and at a broiling 170 degrees F.

Engineers dropped bowling balls onto the bed and swung the balls into the sidewalls. They also dropped spears onto the bed. The reinforced

reaction injection molded plastic outer panels withstood the torture without any apparent damage.

GM claims the production plastic bed will withstand extreme punishment like no other pickup available. The plastic panels are also rustproof.

That's not the case with plastic inserts inside the beds. Water and moisture can collect under the inserts and corrode the steel bed and sidewalls. A bed built of plastic shrugs off moisture.

Other advantages of the plastic bed include a reduction in overall truck weight by 50 pounds. Yet the plastic tailgate is designed to carry a 1,000-pound load compared to 600 pounds for the present steel box tailgate. The tailgate is made of struc-

tural reaction injection molding that consists of a 50/50 mix of urethane and glass fiber. It is 15 pounds lighter than the steel tailgate.

GM engineers say that outer plastic panels are twice as resistant to damage compared to cars like the Chevrolet Corvette and Camaro, and the Pontiac Firebird that also are built with composite panels.

But if a truck fender is damaged, GM says it can be removed in less than 10 minutes and repaired in a matter of hours.

This minimizes downtime for trucks in commercial use. Most scratches inside the box can be polished out with a silicone cleanser.

Lawrence A. Denton, president of Dow Automotive, the company that

supplied some of the material that went into the plastic, says that within the next few years pickup boxes will be made of plastic. They will be plastics used in the truck bed, but proven materials.

Dow has a huge development budget developing new plastics for applications. The current trend of light vehicles and 250 pounds. With future technology innovations that are possible, Denton says.

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AUTO SHORTS

Nissan plans U.S. push

TOKYO — A plan by Carlos Ghosn to save Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. will spare all but a few U.S. jobs while cutting 21,000 worldwide.

Nissan's chief operating officer announced plans to bolster North American production while shutting five plants in Japan. Ghosn promised to bring a wider variety of cars and trucks to the United States, and he promised to breathe new life into Infiniti, Nissan's luxury division.

Nissan North America, Inc. escaped the brunt of Ghosn's cuts, but it and those who do business with Nissan are expected to shoulder more responsibility.

Suppliers will have to prove themselves if they are to survive cuts in the company's global purchasing ranks. Ad agency TBWA/Chiat Day will have to compete for a single global account.

No longer will Americans be able to blame Japan for products that missed the mark. Ghosn ruled that no new products will come to the United States without the American's blessing.

Jaguar names new boss

NEW YORK — Mike O'Driscoll, 43, the former Washington regional manager for Lincoln Mercury will succeed Michael Dale as president of Jaguar Cars North America.

O'Driscoll is a native of Coventry, England, Jaguar's home base. He has been at Lincoln Mercury and Ford for the past four years following 20 years at Jaguar. From 1992-95, he was Jaguar's general sales manager for the United States.

Dale will retire after a 42-year career on May 2. O'Driscoll rejoined Jaguar Cars North America as executive vice president on Dec. 1. Dale reported that Jaguar Cars North America could top its all-time sales record in the U.S. of 24,464 early in November. The record was set in 1986.

New traffic safety regulator

WASHINGTON — A 36-year-old economist and former congressional staffer is now in charge of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater named Rosalyn Millman acting administrator responsible for motor vehicle safety regulations.

Millman joined the agency just last month as deputy administrator, the number two position, but suddenly found herself in charge when Administrator Ricardo Martinez resigned to take a job in the private sector.

Toyota drops its platforms

TOKYO — A plan to cut the number of vehicle plans from 40 to 14 has been announced by Toyota Motor Corp.

President Fujio Cho did not set a time frame for the cuts, but every model change will incorporate a reduction in the platform count.

Cho said Toyota currently has 20 monocoque and 20 body-on-frame platforms.

He wants to cut that to seven of each. Of the monocoque platforms, Toyota wants to have three front-engine, rear-drive configurations and four front-engine, front-drive configurations. Cho said the platform cuts would not reduce the number of models offered.

Toyota snubs net buyers

TOKYO — More than 30 percent of the requests for new-vehicle pricing information when Autobytel Japan K.K. opened for business were for Toyota vehicles.

Even though Toyota Motor Corp. covets those young, computer-savvy buyers, it turned its back on them. At the carmaker's direction, no Toyota dealer has signed up with either Autobytel Japan or its rival, CarPoint K.K. Toyota has decided not to embrace Internet retailing because of the implicit threat it poses to the automaker's control over new-car distribution.

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Denise

FROM PAGE D1

ticated sound systems — none is a stranger any longer to the so-called economy category. Yes, some vehicles still have roll-up windows, but the buying public is more and more opting for power windows.

Mercedes-Benz pioneered the driver-assist controls that sensed an incipient skid and automatically controlled the throttle and brake to tame the errant wheel(s) and keep things rolling and stable. Such a stability control system was a \$6,000 option on M-B's four-wheel drive (4Matic) station wagon, for instance. Now a similar system is under consideration on the 2001 Ford Focus that enters the market at \$14,000. A less expensive yaw

control system will add to the base price, but not \$6,000 worth.

The vehicles released in 2000 and beyond will demand new designations. "Crossover" is not really a flexible enough to cover all the mix of styles for the new century.

Several years ago, Suzuki displayed at January's Detroit motor show a four-door Sidekick with doors and seats for four people and a rudimentary pickup bed in the back. This was a fun concept that drew smiles, but it was not built. Too bad. The company would have been leading what is turning into quite a parade.

What do you call a hybrid sedan/pickup? Well, Nissan calls its pickup with four conventional doors (all hinged at their leading edge), the Frontier. It's a crude little truck, but nonetheless has a certain appeal and is selling well.

Montero

FROM PAGE D1

vides a comfortable and stable ride under any road conditions. A limited slip differential is available for 2WD and 4WD. This is standard on the Limited, and available on the XLS models.

"Optimum shift control" is featured on all 2000 Montero Sport vehicles. It is designed to aid in shift quality, and be alert to changes in road conditions. This involves vehicle speed as well as braking and acceleration.

The 4-wheel drive is a traditional unit with a second shift lever which has stops for 2-wheel drive, 4-wheel high and 4-wheel low. It should allow the SUV to go where normal vehicles wouldn't dare.

My test vehicle was the Montero Sport XLS, which was outfitted in an Alpine White/Sudan Beige Metallic paint job, plus wardrobe accessories of new headlights, front grille and bumper, fender flares, and new side steps to name a few.

Fog lamps are molded into the front frame which adds to the smooth lines of the design. The new distinctive 16-inch alloy wheels

do not detract from the over-all picture.

Some wheels can be too shiny and make a vehicle look like a Christmas tree. Just a personal opinion.

The luxurious interior has everything but the kitchen sink. Spacious comfortable seating, an automatic rearview dimming mirror, keyless entry, the list goes on.

My test vehicle had leather seating, but is available in cloth if that is a preference.

I must mention that the drivers seat has an adjustable lumbar support, and seat height adjustment. Great for long journey. Also cup holders are located more conveniently in the center console.

Two storage units in the cargo area are located in the floor. There are covers that tilt to act as picnic trays. There is also a sliding top cover to hide cargo from prying eyes.

There is no doubt that the center of gravity will not allow the driver to drive an SUV like a sedan. My favorite winding test road will back me up.

Don't go plowing into tight corners and expect a smooth recovery. Ease into those corners then you won't have to moan about SUVs being

ing tipsy.

Ahh — those four-wheel disc brakes, my saviours. I would prefer not having to test them in a hurry, but they work.

Estimated EPA information sug-

gests 17 MPG city and 20 MPA highway. Stomping on the accelerator, or carrying large loads of cargo come under the heading of driver habits and would therefore alter MPH.

One might say that a subaru Montero Sponage. Refined, classy, dated, the Montero is definitely worth more than a glance.

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SPECIFICATIONS

2000 Mitsubishi Montero Sport

■ Type: 4-door sport-utility vehicle.

■ Base price: \$29,327

■ As tested: \$32,437

■ Options on test vehicle: Premium package including Mitsubishi/Infinity AM/FM stereo/CD, separate amp, extra speakers; leather-trimmed seats, limited slip differential and power sunroof (\$2,655); destination charge (\$455)

■ Engine: SOHC V-6 with electronically controlled multi-point fuel injection

■ Displacement: 3,497 cc

■ Horsepower: 173 bhp @ 5250 rpm (165 bhp for California models)

■ Torque: 188 ft/lbs @ 4000 rpm (186 ft/lbs for California models)

■ Transmission: 4-speed automatic

■ Steering: power-assisted recirculating

■ Brakes: front ventilated 10.8 in. discs, 12.3 in. with ABS

■ Wheelbase: 107.3 in.

■ Overall length: 178.3 in.

■ Width: 66.7 in.

■ Height: 65.6 in.

■ Track, front/rear: 55.9/56.5 in.

■ Curb weight: 4,005 lbs.

■ Fuel capacity: 19.5 gal.

■ EPA rating: 17 mpg city, 20 mpg highway

The Auto Section

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Trucks, SUVs crowd N. American International Auto Show

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ROIT — The U.S. auto market may look a bit crowded with utility vehicles, but Toyota believes there's still room for its new

modeling in on the brawny segment, the Japanese automaker on Monday introduced the Sequoia during the North American International Auto Show as its largest SUV, comparable in size to Ford Motor Co.'s Expedition.

This will truly be the year of the SUV for Toyota," said Don Esmond, the Toyota Division's group president and general manager. Toyota also plans to introduce the

second generation of its small RAV4 line this year, then unveil another new SUV next January, Esmond said.

The Sequoia, which is based on Toyota's popular Tundra pickup truck, can seat eight and uses the same 4.7-liter V8 as the Tundra, Esmond said. The Tundra's engine was the first Toyota truck engine to be EPA-certified as ultra-low emission.

The Sequoia should go into production in October and reach showrooms two months later, with Toyota hoping to sell 60,000 vehicles a year, Esmond said. He said pricing has not been set but will be similar to the Expedition and Chevrolet Tahoe, which range between about \$25,000 and \$28,000.

"What Tundra did for the full-sized pickup we think Sequoia will do for the SUV market," Esmond said.

SUVs were the fastest-growing segment in 1999, up 15 percent from the previous year, according to Morgan & Co.

Last year, trucks accounted for 58 percent of the 11.6 million vehicles sold by General Motors Corp., Ford and DaimlerChrysler AG's Chrysler division — and probably a much larger percent of their vehicle profits.

While experts say total U.S. vehicle sales in 2000 could decline slightly from a record 16.9 million in 1999, it could be the year automakers sell more trucks than cars, given

that trucks last year amounted to 48.5 percent of sales.

"Is the market saturated yet? Your guess is as good as mine," GM's Gary White said after that automaker's unveiling of its two latest entries — the Pontiac Aztek SUV and the Chevrolet Avalanche, a four-door pickup.

"In the truck market, the winners and losers are being defined by functionality."

Toyota was not the only foreign manufacturer with a truck on display.

Volkswagen AG pulled the wraps off a concept pickup truck, which the German automaker says melds luxury, sportiness and the all-wheel-

drive mettle to get through most anything — 10-cylinder, turbocharged engine and all.

Volkswagen also said it plans to build in 2002 a convertible version of its New Beetle, which was reintroduced in 1998. And the company said four-wheel-drive versions of its Passat wagons and sedans will be available later this month.

Other unveilings Monday:

— Mercedes debuted its Vision SLA roadster, a futuristic-looking two-seater with an arrow-shaped front end resembling an airplane wing. The four-cylinder, 125-horsepower engine is derived from the Mercedes-Benz A-Class cars sold in Europe.

— Sweden's Volvo introduced the redesigned V70 and V70 XC station wagons, both built on the platform of its S80 passenger car. The V70 goes on sale April 1, followed by the V70 XC on Aug. 1. The V70 XC is billed as having SUV qualities within the framework of a station wagon.

— BMW introduced its new 3 Series convertible. The highlight is a box that holds the retracted roof but can be removed when the top is up for additional cargo space. It uses the same 2.5-liter inline 6 as other 3 series cars, generating 170 horsepower, and is set to go into production this spring.

Hot tip: Warm engine to take chill out of automatic transmission

Dear Doctor: I own a 1996 Honda Civic with an automatic transmission. Normally, the transmission shifts into fifth gear between 50-55 mph. Early in winter, the transmission shifted into fifth gear at 65 mph. As the weather gets very cold, the shift disappears in the spring. Suggestions would be appreciated. Rick

interior lights and fuses. The problem started with the seat belt light coming on when I turned the defroster on. Then the anti-lock brakes light came on and the radio fuse would blow when the interior lights were on. I also have had three air conditioning compressors replaced since June 1998. Now interior lights do not work at all and all fuses are good. What do you think? Scott

Dear Scott: Problems like this require a qualified technician, wire diagram, and a few hours of time to check the circuits and ground connections. Your car has an interior module that is time-delayed and can cause many strange light problems which can be damaged from aftermarket alarm systems and radio installations.

Key-in-to keyless entry

Dear Doctor: I own a 1994 Cadillac Seville SLS with 33,450 miles. Recently, the power door locks stopped working from the key fob. I replaced

the batteries, but they still don't work. My second problem is the stop light strip across the trunk lid. Part of the light strip is bright, the other is dim. The dealer wants \$400 to replace it. Any suggestions would be appreciated. Ed

Dear Ed: Key fobs wear out and break from being tossed around. Have you ever dropped your keys? Mitchell's On-Demand lists a trouble chart to check the operation of the keyless entry system. As for the rear deck lid brake light bar, it is expensive and sold as a one piece light strip. Unlike conventional tail lights, the rear light bar is an LED set up. The LED system illuminates faster and brighter than conventional tail lights. It does look good and serves as additional lighting when stopping, giving cars behind you better vision of your car.

Tires innocent in vibration

Dear Doctor: I own a 1983 Cadillac DeVille with 47,000 original miles

that I keep in Florida. At 25,000 miles, it developed a vibration at 58 mph. I have had two sets of tires, balanced both on and off the car, with no help. What is my next step? Ed

Dear Ed: I guess we know the vibration is not from the tires. The next step is to have the shop road test the car to make sure they feel the vibration with you in the car. Next have them use third gear instead of overdrive. If the vibration stops then, the problem could be in the lockup torque converter, or even an engine misfire in overdrive. If the vibration persists, shift the transmission into neutral at 58 mph with your foot off the gas. If there is no change, the shop should send the drive shaft out to check the balance. This is the procedure we follow at my shop with a problem such as yours. It is not unusual to have out of balance drive shafts.

Mystery of missing plates

Dear Doctor: I own a 1999 Ford conversion van. My problem is the

front disc brakes backing plates are not there. The inside of the rotor is completely exposed. If grease from the grease fitting blows out, it will land on the brake rotor. I contacted Ford engineering and their specifications call for backing plates on both front wheels. What should I do? Harry

Dear Harry: I would like to know what Ford's position is on just installing a pair of front backing plates. There could have been a running production change to eliminate the backing plates. You can always call the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at 800/424-9393 and ask them on the subject.

Why not upgrade?

Dear Doctor: I own a 1992 Lincoln Town Car with 107,000 miles. At 75,000 miles the dealer said it needed a transmission overhaul which I have not done yet. Now at 107,000 miles the check engine light came on, so back to the same dealer for a check.

They said the light comes on because of the smoke out the tail pipe at idle. The engine will burn a quart of oil every 300 to 400 miles. Should I invest the \$5,000 it will cost to fix the Town Car? Clay

Dear Clay: The current value of your car is only \$5,000. If the rest of the car is in perfect condition, and you plan on keeping the car four more years, \$5,000 is a small price to pay. I personally would like to upgrade to a later model vehicle. If you like the Town Car, buy another. There were both valve guide and valve seal problems on the 4.6-liter V8, which have been cleared up in the last couple of years.

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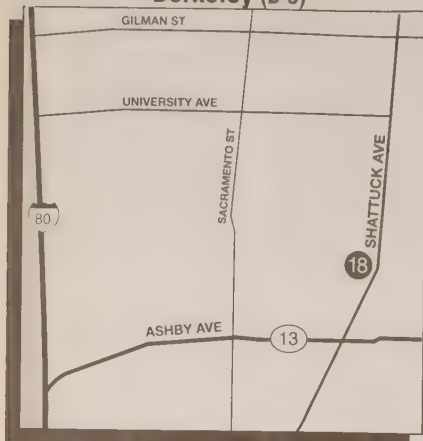
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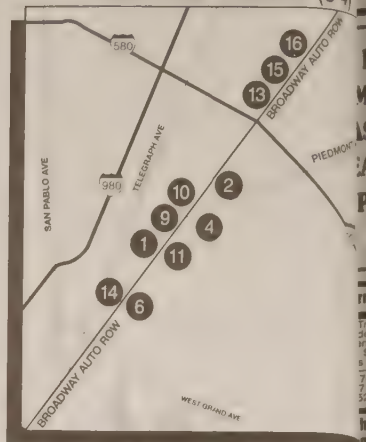
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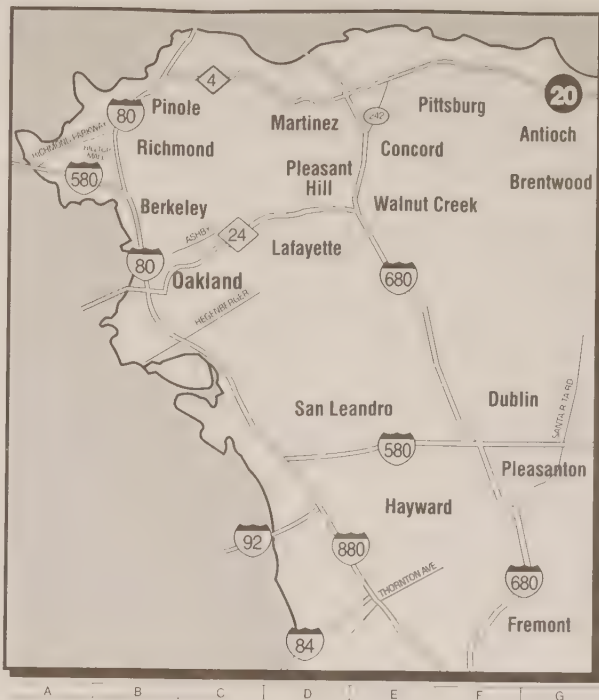
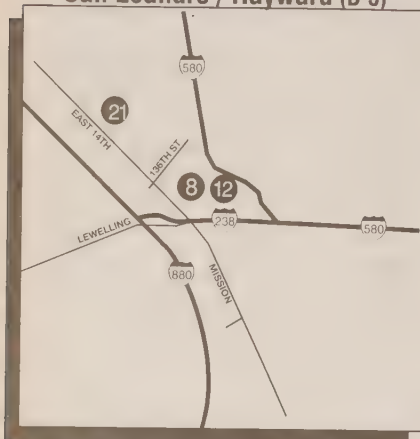
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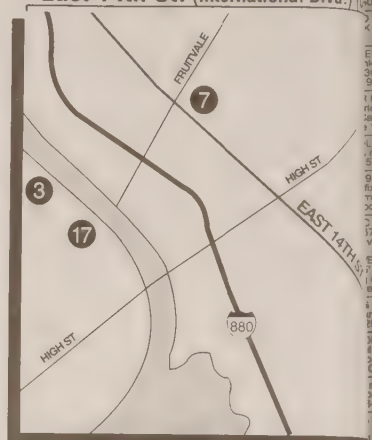
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36-mo. closed-end lease with option to purchase. \$138.56 incl. tax, \$4998.16 total of payments, \$7902 residual, \$1983.85 total drive off incl. \$150 refundable sec. dep. 12,000 mi/yr. 10¢ excess miles

ALL 2000 CAMRYS

Model 2525

\$15,988/OR \$158**ONLY 36 MONTHS**

Per Mo. + TAX

36-mo. closed-end lease with option to purchase. \$171.07 incl. tax, \$6157.08 total of payments, \$11,549.18 residual, \$1958.88 total drive off incl. \$175 refundable sec. dep. 12,000 mi/yr. 10¢ excess miles

2000 ECHO**\$9988**

Model 1413 • 1 to Choose #016342

2000 TACOMA**\$11,988**

Model 7103 • 1 to Choose #584635

GUARANTEED SATISFACTION**7 DAY USED CAR EXCHANGE**

*7 day exchange must be on same price or greater and in acceptable condition

OVER 100 USED CARS IN STOCK

89 Mazda 626	\$2888
8732148	
96 Ford Taurus LX	\$3888
801148	
93 Ford Escort GL	\$6588
8136747	
97 Geo Metro LSI	\$6888
9769097	
91 Volvo 240	\$7888
8441591	
97 Toyota Tercel	\$7888
8201008	
94 Dodge Caravan V6	\$8488
8301008	
95 Mazda MPV V6	\$9888
8708716	
93 Mercury Villager GS	\$9888
8103243	
93 Plymouth Grand Voyager	\$9688
8609538	
95 Isuzu Rodeo LS 4x4	\$13,888
8336507	
96 Ford Windstar 3.8L V6	\$15,888
8332883	
99 Mitsubishi Eclipse RS	\$15,888
8086474	
93 Volvo 960 Wagon	\$15,888
8011108	
97 Lexus ES300	\$23,888
8004810	
96 BMW Z3 Convertible	\$24,888
8576090	
99 Toyota Solara SLE V6	\$25,888
8010100	
96 Toyota LandCruiser	\$28,888
8110463	

2000 TUNDRA EXT. CAB**\$19,988**

Model 7728 • 1 to Choose #023216

2000 4RUNNER**\$21,988**

Model 8640 • 1 to Choose #058593

NEED CREDIT? CALL... 510-913-9798**1825 PARK ST. ALAMEDA**
Visit us on the internet <http://www.rongoodetoyota.com>
All prices plus tax, title, and smog. All vehicles subject to prior sale. Ad expires 48 hours after publication.**(877)476-6466**

250 Help Wanted

GRAPHIC ARTIST w/2 yrs. exp. Must be creative. P/T. FT. 9-5. Fax: 925-341-1137.

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Design Service Specialist
New quick print shop needs
D.S. for all day-to-day opera-
tions. Must have previous
knowledge of Adobe II, Pho-
to, Acro, Page & Quark Ex-
press. MAC & PC. Interview
req. Fax: 925-244-9911.

GRAPHIC DESIGN
Please see our display
ad under ART.

GRAPHIC DESIGN WEB
MASTER-HTML, vi-
scapshot, Photoshop, Page-
maker. Must have previous
layout & design exp. Grl. sal.
& atmosphere. Email resume
to: jbs@netcom.com

GRAPHICS
PRODUCTION ARTIST

WINTERLAND, large enter-
tainment merchandising local-
ity in San Leandro, CA has an
opening for a Production Ar-
tist to work in our dynamic
Creative Services Department.
Must have a minimum 2 years
of production art background-
separations, with strong Macintosh
skills, especially Photoshop, Free-
hand, Illustrator, Quark
exp. and excellent ability to
detail wage rate \$16.00 per
hr. depending on experience.
Send resume to: Winterland,
Production Art, 1951 Fairway
Dr., San Leandro, CA 94577 /
510-347-4018. Fax: 510-347-
4018. Email: psonnell@winterland.com

GRAPHICS VINYL
Production Sign Shop
58-510 Shattuck
Fax: 510-232-9668

GREETINGS Welcome new
residents. Openings in Walnut
Creek, Lafayette, San Ramon.
10-15 hrs. Fax: 925-448-0888
(925) 944-0488

GROCERY
Whole Foods Market seeks
professional, motivated, pro-
fessional, energetic, and
TEAM LEADERS/MANAGERS
to work in our new San Ramon
store. We are hiring for these
departments now:
• Grocery
• Meat
• Seafood
• Cheese, Pasta & Wine
• Prepared Foods
All applicants should have
exp. in food handling, cus-
tomer service, and manage-
ment. We offer a competitive
salary, excellent benefits, a
staff training. We offer a com-
petitive wage rate of \$10.00
per hour. 20% discount, opportunity
for career advancement, a
safe work environment. Fax re-
sume to: A. Joergers @
925-245-0095

HAIR CUTTER/STYLIST
No Sunday or Monday
Great income, co-workers,
flex. P/T. 925-245-0095

HAIR DRESSER/Chair rental
20 yr. clientele avail. Hair
Dresser, left area. Great
pricing. 925-325-0000

HAIR STYLIST/MGR.
Elizabeth Arden Salon
Macys'. Exp. hair stylist
w/strong admin. skills. Must
cust. svc. skills. Ability to
handle multiple duties.
10-12 hrs. 401K. Fax: 925-
341-1137. Fax: 925-341-1137

HAIR STYLIST-Super cuts
expanding staff. busy & grow-
ing. P/T & FT. hvy. pay. Gd.
bnt. bnt. fitness. Fax: 425-
6350. Antioch 778-4269.
Antioch 634-3341

HAIR STYLIST-Barber for busy
Alamo barber shop. 70% com-
mission. (925) 955-1940

HAIR STYLIST assist. Danv
with sta. rental. 925-692-2130.
loc. Reas 925-692-2130

HAIR STYLIST
Immed. need. hours open,
hourly pay. Alamo 925-825-0506

HAIR STYLIST: Must travel to
different locations in the
Bay Del. pay (510) 965-1203

HAIR STYLIST
Are you looking for a future as
a hairstylist? Join our team at
West Valley Mall in Tracy. Re-
ceive training & bnt. & part-time
or your career. Apply in person
at JUPENNEY, 3100
Naglee Rd., Tracy

HAIR STYLIST best deal in
Danville, 1st mo. rent free
Call Sharon. 925-920-2337

HAIR STYLIST
Exp. stylist for full service sa-
lons. Beauty supply P/T or P/T,
clipper cuts & treat. Hourly
30% com. Med. den.
925-925-9259

HAIR STYLIST
Rental Well est. salon wants
motivated stylist to join team
of highly trained stylists. Lo-
cated in a great loc., 1 block
from Nordstrom. Call: 925-
wipod walk-in traffic. Ask for
Joan (925) 943-7524

HAIR STYLIST, Station. For-
rent in Walnut Creek. Great
co-workers, nice salon
(925) 932-2242

HUMAN RESOURCES

DO YOU WANT THE
OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE?
Copart, Inc. is rapidly expanding its
nationwide network of facilities.
The following positions are immediately
available at its headquarters in Benicia,
CA:

HR REPRESENTATIVE
An excellent learning opportunity
for someone with basic HR generalist
experience to move up to a critical
specialist role. Excellent communication,
analysis, problem solving and telephone
skills a must. 1 to 2 years previous HR
experience. Significant HR education
needed, college preferred.

PAYROLL SPECIALIST
Seasoned professional to process payroll
for approx. 700+ exempt & non-exempt
employees. ADP PC/Payroll along with
extreme attention to detail and strong
computer and people skills a must.
Experience in multi-state tax knowledge
and electronic time & attendance
programs a plus!

We offer competitive compensation and
benefits. Submit resumes and salary
history indicating position to Copart, Inc.,
POB 1764, Benicia, CA 94510. Fax to
707-748-5190 or email to
Coparth@aol.com.

250 Help Wanted

HEALTH CARE
Care Managers
FT. 230 pm to 11pm.
10:30 pm to 6:30 am. Ages
Assisted Living a visionary
leader. A vision of a
looking for compassionate,
energetic, care managers
dedicated to promoting high
quality service to our res-
idents. Duties include as-
sisting residents with activities
of daily living, light house-
keeping, driving, room service and
socialization. The ability to
communicate and work with
the english language is req. If
you are looking for a job you
can love and want to make
difference in your life as well
as someone that can provide
information at (925) 377-7929
or fax to 925-377-7929

HEALTH CARE
CLINICAL EXAMINERS
for managed healthcare compa-
ny. High productivity required.
Min. 1 year exp. in HMO/PPO
claims production, ICD9 and
CPT codes, plus 10% pay &
computer proficiency. Excel-
lent phone & writing skills.

AUTHORIZATION CLAIMS
COORDINATOR for managed
healthcare company. High
productivity required. Min. 1
yr. exp. in HMO/PPO claims
production, ICD9 and CPT
codes, plus 10% pay & com-
puter proficiency. Excellent
phone & writing skills.

ELECTRONIC DATA INTER-
FACE SPECIALIST to process
electronic data interchange
claims. Requires min. 2 years
exp. in managed healthcare
claims. High productivity re-
quired. Must have solid com-
puter skills, some programming
experience. Knowledge of
healthcare claims and eli-
gibility processing helpful.

Flex. benefits, 401K, ESOP,
some home based. Ref. req.
for ref. reference job title
history to (510) 442-4747 or
fax to NAMI, attn: position
coordinator, 10000 85th Ave.,
Emeryville, CA 94608

HEALTH CARE
A vision of a visionary leader in St. Jo-
seph, is looking for an ambi-
tious, energetic, and pro-
fessional for our community in
Morgue. This position re-
quires strong judgement, ability to
problem solve and make
effective decisions. You will
be required for higher-
level, scheduling and training
of care managers. Additional
responsibilities include: pro-
vide as assisting Exp. Dr.
contact. Fax: 925-377-7929
or Fax: 925-377-7929

HEALTH CARE
Retirement community seek-
ing professional care attendants,
P/T & FT. days & P/T 3-6pm
Fax resume (925) 935-1511

HEALTH CARE
Are you passionate about
women's health? Do you be-
lieve that every child should
be born healthy? Planned
Parenthood in Walnut
Creek seeks committed and
motivated individuals to pro-
vide health education and
counseling to women. Plan-
ning and abortion clinics
located in medical setting pre-
ferred. Will train and em-
ploy. Contact: Liane Spitzer,
925-755-1025 with benefits
Johnston, 1357 Oakland Blvd.,
Walnut Creek 94596 or FAX
925-755-1025

HEALTH CARE
ADMINISTRATORS
Manner Post-Acute Network, one
of the nation's leading provid-
ers of long-term care,
sub-acute and rehab services,
is seeking experienced admin-
istrators for its growing net-
work. Available all over the Greater Bay
area for qualified professional
with 5+ years experience as an
Administrator.

We offer an excellent salary and
competitive benefits. Please
send resume to Manner Post-
Acute Network, Attn: Mary
1832 B St. Hayward, CA 94541
Fax 510-786-3673 EOE

MARINER POST-ACUTE
NETWORK
Partners in
Continuing Care

HEALTH CARE
Developmental
Program Aides
(\$13.92/hr)

Contra Costa County Health
Services Department is seek-
ing full-time, part-time and
on-call Developmental Pro-
gram Aides to work in the
George Miller Centers in
Richmond and Concord. You
will work with developmentally
disabled adults and chil-
dren. This is an individual
and group training in basic
skills, assisting with basic
self-care and supporting the
professional staff in adminis-
trating a variety of treat-
ments. Requirements include
a high school diploma or
equivalent, a valid CA driver's
license and at least six
months of full-time experi-
ence or equivalent providing
therapeutic self-care and/or
behavioral management ser-
vices to developmentally dis-
abled infants or adults. Some
college may be substituted for
experience. EOE

For more information and an
application, contact the

GEORGE MILLER
CENTER
(925) 646-5710

SUNRISE
ASSISTED LIVING

DO YOU WANT THE
OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE?

Irwin Home Equity
We're an
exciting,
fast-growing
company.

And that's just one
of many reasons. In only 5 years, Irwin
Home Equity has grown from 1 employee to
over 300. And we're still expanding. As one of the
fastest growing subsidiaries of Irwin Financial
Corporation, we're introducing new products and now we
need more staff to handle our increased volume. Consider the
following opportunities:

• Credit Risk Managers
• Project Managers
• Administrative Assistant
• Network Specialist
• Underwriters
• Loan Processors
• Inside Sales/Wholesale
• Collections
• Quality Control
• Funding/Shipping Coordinator
• HR Manager
• Broker Operations Manager

In addition to the excellent
compensation and exceptional ben-
efits, including a 401K
plan and stock purchase options, please send your resume to: Irwin Home
Equity, Human Resources, Dept. 10/0109, P.O. Box 1360, San Ramon,
CA 94583. FAX: (925) 277-3008. Email: jobs@irwin.com

Irwin
Home Equity

250 Help Wanted

HEALTH CARE
Retirement community seek-
ing Personal Care Manager
Fax resume to 925-935-1511

HEALTH CLUB Mgr on duty,
take charge pref. wanted to
mgr. upscale health club
evenings & weekends. Competitive
salary. Call 910-222-2500

HEALTH CLUB Sales, motivate
pref. to work outside sale at
established Base salary -
competitive comm bonus
call 510-222-2500

HEALTH CARE
Adolescent Health
Professional
Contra Costa Health Services
TeenAge Program seeks Ad-
olescent Health Program Spe-
cialist for health promotion
activities with adolescents in
high schools and community
EA or 2 years experience in
health education program
planning or community orga-
nization. Excellent opportunity
for a motivated individual with
bachelor's degree and com-
munications skills. Please
send resume to: Adolescent
Health Program, 10000 85th
Ave., Emeryville, CA 94608
Fax: 925-377-7929

HEALTH CARE
Join our team at Guardian
and Feel Good about Health
Care Admin.

Guardian of Roomshare has
the following openings:

• Complex Care Director
• Director of Staff
Development
• Activities Assistant
• Bus Driver
• RN/LVN/CNA

Applications always
welcome

Theresa Nelson
FX: 925-937-5026
EOE

HEALTH CARE
At Doctors Medical Center in
San Pablo, we take pride in
providing a wide range of ad-
ministrative services to our
patients. We are currently
seeking a highly motivated
individual to join our team
as a Medical Office Assistant.
This position requires a high
level of customer service, ex-
cellent communication skills,
and the ability to work in a
fast-paced environment. We
offer a competitive salary and
benefits package. If you are
interested, please send your
resume to: Doctors Medical
Center, Human Resources,
10000 85th Ave., Emeryville,
CA 94608. Fax: 925-377-7929.

HEALTH CARE
We offer a competitive salary
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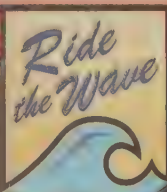
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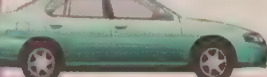
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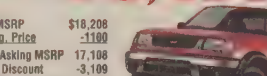
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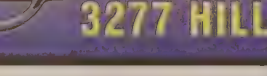
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SHOPS AND SERVICES BEYOND THE HILLS
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Rich Brie baked with cranberry sauce makes a delicious appetizer

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

When you bite into a wedge of Baked Cranberry Almond Brie, you get warm Brie cheese topped with cranberry sauce and toasted almonds wrapped inside the flaky cream cheese pastry.

The recipe is easy to make, to add to a selection of appetizers or to serve alone.

Baked Cranberry Almond Brie
Preparation Time: 15 minutes
Cooking Time: 30 minutes
Standing Time: 15 minutes
Serving Time: 30 minutes

Ingredients:
1 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup butter, softened
1/2 cup cream cheese
1/2 cup cranberry sauce
1/2 cup almonds, chopped
(see note)

Directions:
1. Beat egg with water in small bowl; brush top and sides of pastry. Bake for 15 minutes to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from baking sheet immediately. Let stand 30 minutes to allow cheese to set. Cut into small wedges and serve with apple or pear slices and crackers.
2. Makes 8 servings.

until mixture leaves sides of bowl and forms a dough, 2 or 3 minutes. Divide dough in half; wrap in plastic food wrap. Refrigerate until firm, 1 hour.

Heat oven to 400 F.

On lightly floured surface, roll each half of dough to 1/8-inch thickness. Cut 8-inch circle from each half; save dough scraps for decoration. Place one circle on baking sheet. Place Brie in center of pastry circle. Spread cranberry sauce on top of Brie; sprinkle with toasted almonds. Top with other pastry circle. Pinch edges of pastry to seal. Flute edges as desired. Decorate top with small pastry cutouts.

Beat egg with water in small bowl; brush top and sides of pastry. Bake for 15 minutes to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Remove from baking sheet immediately. Let stand 30 minutes to allow cheese to set. Cut into small wedges and serve with apple or pear slices and crackers.

Makes 8 servings.

Note: Do not remove outer rind of Brie. It is perfectly edible and helps keep the cheese contained inside pastry. To toast almonds, spread evenly in shallow pan. Bake at 350 F for 4 to 6 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool completely. Serve and enjoy



AP PHOTO/LAND O' LAKES

BAKED CRANBERRY APPLE BRIE consists of warm Brie cheese, topped with cranberry sauce and toasted almonds, wrapped inside a flakey cream cheese pastry. The recipe is easy to make to add to a selection of appetizers or to serve alone.



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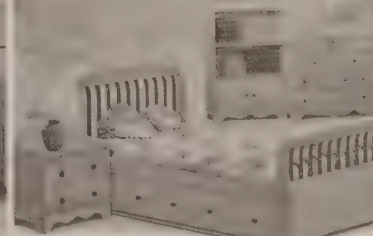
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Gratin of cauliflower and Parmesan makes cauliflower a tasty treat

By Jimmy Schmidt
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Much to the chagrin of our mothers, as kids we stuck up our noses at cauliflower.

But there are many ways to serve cauliflower to make it a welcome addition to a holiday meal. Today we'll prepare a gratin of cauliflower that will win over kids and finicky adults.

What exactly is cauliflower? Like broccoli, cauliflower is a member of the cabbage family. Left to grow unpicked, its clusters of flowers, or florets, are transformed into a tightly packed head called a curd. Cauliflower can range in color from white, the most familiar type in the United States and France, to green, common in Italy, to purple.

Advantages: Cauliflower is high in vitamin C and low in calories. It's also a source of potassium, fiber and folacin.

Selecting cauliflower: Look for heavy heads that are unblemished, solid and have fresh green leaves. Cauliflower can be stored wrapped in the refrigerator for a day or two.

Preparing cauliflower: Trim away the leaves. Cut the florets into small- to medium-size pieces. Slice the core very thinly.

Tricks of the trade: Cauliflower should not be overcooked or it will become mushy. Cooking time should be less than three minutes for florets and less than that for core slices. Blanch the florets first, then the core. Transfer each to a colander and drain.

To keep the cauliflower's whiteness, add a teaspoon or two of lemon juice to the cooking water. The greens and stems are especially good in soups and stir-fries.

Mix and match: Cauliflower's simple flavor

is enhanced by seasonings. Try garlic, ginger, lemongrass and even kaffir lime leaves for unusual yet wonderful flavor combinations.

Try your technique: Try a great Gratin of Cauliflower and Parmesan for the holidays. Maybe it will turn up on your table at other times of the year.

Gratin of Cauliflower and Parmesan

Juice of 1 lemon

Salt to taste

- 1 large cauliflower head, cut into small florets and the core sliced very thinly
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2 sweet onions, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, peeled, minced
- Salty and crushed red pepper flakes to taste
- 1 1/2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 1 cup grated sharp cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup grated fontinella cheese (or substitute mozzarella)
- 1/2 cup diced provolone cheese
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese, divided
- 1 cup snipped fresh chives, divided

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Butter a baking dish that is large enough to hold all the ingredients and set aside.

Bring a large pot of water to a boil over high heat. Add the lemon juice and season with salt. Add the cauliflower florets and cook until al dente (firm to the bite) about 3 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the florets to a colander to drain. Add the sliced cauliflower core to the same water and cook until al dente, about 2 minutes. Transfer to another colander to drain.

In a large nonstick skillet, heat the butter over

medium-high heat. Add the onions and garlic and cook until the onions are tender and translucent, about 10 minutes. Season well with salt and the crushed red pepper flakes.

Add the cream and bring the mixture to a simmer. Reduce the heat and add the cheddar, fontinella and provolone cheeses, stirring until they melt. Do not boil them.

Add the cauliflower slices and stir to coat with the cheese mixture. Remove the skillet from the heat. Adjust seasonings with salt and black pepper.

Spoon about a quarter of the cauliflower slices mixture evenly across the bottom of the prepared baking dish. Sprinkle about a quarter of the cauliflower florets across the top of the slices. Season with 1/4 cup each of Parmesan cheese and the chives. Cover the florets with another quarter of the cauliflower slices mixture followed by florets, Parmesan cheese and chives. Repeat with the remaining ingredients to build four layers.

Bake until golden, about 30 minutes. Remove from the oven and allow to cool slightly before serving.

Makes 8 servings.

Tested by Jimmy Schmidt

275 calories (76% from fat), 23 grams fat (14 grams sat. fat), 5 grams carbohydrate, 13 grams protein, 410 mg sodium, 75 mg cholesterol, 363 mg calcium, 1 gram fiber

Michigan chef Jimmy Schmidt is the proprietor of the Rattlesnake Club in Detroit, Jimmy's Double A Bar and Grill in Ann Arbor, Chianti Tuscan Grill in Southfield, Jimmy's in Grosse Pointe Farms and Smitty's Grill in Rochester.

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Recycle your used motor oil - Never pour it down the drain

Spicy jambalaya mix makes an easy meal

By Licia Jackson and Carol J.G. Ward
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

constant barrage of new products can be overwhelming, which ones are worth your time? This monthly product review is your guide in navigating the grocery aisles.

On the shelf this month are Zatarain's Jambalaya Pasta Dinner Mix, Eight O' Clock Hazelnut Coffee and Edy's Dreamery Ice Cream.

Zatarain's Jambalaya Pasta Dinner Mix. Purchase price: \$2.19 for a 6.7-ounce box (5 servings).

Maybe it was because we were extra hungry, maybe it was the sausage we added, but we found this dish to be surprisingly tasty. We sliced up some pre-cooked ham kielbasa and browned it for a few minutes in a large saucepan. Then we added 2 cups of water and the pasta mix and let it cook about 15 minutes.

The spicy aroma drew everyone to the table. We added the jambalaya into pasta bowls and topped with a few leftover boiled shrimp to the top. We prepared a fresh green salad and made our cool-weather supper complete.

Nothing on our grocery list.

We've tried several Zatarain's products and never been disappointed. This one is no exception.

The twists are a nice variation on rice, the base for jambalaya, and the flavor is good. Just enough spice.

As a salad or other vegetable side dish, and

you've got a complete meal in less than 30 minutes.

I also was pleasantly surprised by the sodium content. The sodium in many packaged products is off the scale, but this one has only 300 mg. (or 12 percent of the RDA) per serving.

■ Eight O' Clock Bean Coffee Hazelnut. Purchase price: \$3.89 for 12 ounces.

LJ: I'd been looking forward to trying this coffee after hearing about it. I'm a big fan of Eight O'Clock's regular coffees, which come in bean form and need to be ground at the store or at home.

But I have to say I was disappointed at the mildness of the hazelnut flavoring in this offering. It smells good while brewing, but the flavor is just barely detectable.

It doesn't have the usual robust coffee taste that Eight O'Clock's other coffees have, either. This one misses the boat for us.

CW: This coffee is nothing special, nor is it bad. It's just another coffee.

My assessment: The hazelnut seems to be more aroma than taste.

My husband, on the other hand, is the coffee connoisseur, and his comment about the hazelnut flavoring was, "Why mess up good coffee?"

His assessment: You'd probably be better off making regular coffee and adding a flavored syrup or creamer.

■ Edy's Dreamery Ice Cream. Purchase price: \$3.19 for 1 pint.

LJ: Man, oh, man, this is good stuff. We tried

the Cool Mint flavor of the new Dreamery Ice Cream, which has fudge ribbons and chips of thin mint cookies in a minty base.

It was delicious, a very icy taste experience. And the ice cream is so rich that a single scoop makes a good dessert.

We later tried another flavor, New York Cheesecake, when we had guests for dinner. A scoop was served on the side with a slice of birthday cake, and it made a perfect accompaniment.

I wanted to try the cheesecake flavor again on its own, but it had disappeared.

Although the price seems steep for a pint of ice cream, it does go farther than you'd think: about six ice-cream scoops full per container. It's worth it for an occasional special treat.

CW: Too stuffed after Thanksgiving dinner to indulge in another treat. I awaited the tasting of this ice cream with anticipation. When I finally tried it, I had to wonder what all my excitement was about.

I tried Cashew Praline Parfait, a vanilla ice cream with pralined cashews, fudge and caramel swirls.

The vanilla flavor tasted artificial, and although there were cashews, the pralines were nonexistent.

I know sweet and creamy are attributes you usually want in an ice cream, but this one is way too sweet and creamy.

It's also very pricey at \$3.19 per pint. Perhaps Edy's claim that a pint carton contains four servings is a way to justify the price.

Cabernet franc deserves some respect

By Eric Asimove
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

Complacency is too often the fate of cabernet franc. Its usual role in blends is as a blending agent, to soften the tannic edges of cabernet sauvignon, its dominant relation. When it does get to shine on its own, it is plagued by issues of identity. Do you know it by the glorified wines of Cheval Blanc, the major Bordeaux chateau whose wines are largely cabernet franc, or the light-bodied, herbal wines of Chinon, Bourgueil and the lower Loire? Or about the lean, acidic wines of Italy?

In fact, the multiple personalities of cabernet franc are a tribute to its versatility, something more wine-makers seem to appreciate. In California, which leans to a heavier Bordeaux style, the number of acres planted with cabernet franc is growing rapidly. New York, especially the North Fork of Long Island, seems to be fertile ground for the lighter Loire style.

Cabernet franc wines, particularly those from the Loire and Long Island, almost always improve with food. Alone, they can often be austere, tasting largely of herbs and green bell peppers, but with anything from fish to Southeast Asian

cuisines the wines blossom.

American cabernet francs are labeled with the name of the grape. The French system is to put the region on the label, so if you are looking for a good cabernet franc from the Loire, remember the names Chinon, Bourgueil, Saumur-Champigny and Anjou-Villages. And if you're lucky enough to drink a fine Bordeaux, know that it probably has some cabernet franc in it, quietly doing its job.



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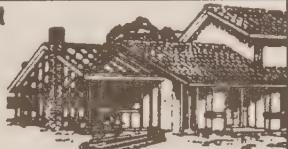
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SOUP

PAGE 4

...good for sinus congest-

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...ous, and you'll be able to
...easier soon," he assured...fully slurped down the
...time scented, chili-infused
...and shortly after, to my re-
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...Having spent some time
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...the popular soup "is...with beneficial nutrients and
...with properties, making for a
...medicinal tonic to re-
...vitality in time of colds...too, have their own ver-
...an chicken-soup-as-penicillin.
...Jenny Kwak, who co-owns...Asian restaurants (Dok Suni's
...Khwah) with her mother, it is
...a milky bone-marrow...a traditional, hearty Korean
...made by boiling the bone
...says Kwak, who was born...and raised in New York
...The longer you boil it, the
...the broth gets. It's very nu-...with lots of calcium and iron,
...great for the flu season, es-
...if you have young chil-...you're feeling rundown, Kwak
...recommends eating chong-na-
...a soybean-sprout soup...with Korean red pepper flakes
...follows), or calcium-laden
...Kwak, a seaweed version of...chicken soup — without
...hidden...restorative soups run the
...gamut, from pungently spiced
...pickled cabbage) soup, a...favorite, to jaechup kook,
...cleansing clam broth reputed
...hangovers....ize hangovers.
...the following Asian-style soups
...back-full of nutrients for bol-...the immune system. One hot
...tip sip, and you won't even
...it's "good for you."**Mustard Green Soup**

Adapted from "The Wisdom of the Chinese Kitchen" (Simon & Schuster) by Grace Young

1 pound broad-leaf mustard greens (dai gai choy, see note)
1 large sweet potato
6 cups water

Rinse the mustard greens in several changes of cold water and drain thoroughly in a colander. Cut the mustard greens into 1-inch pieces. Peel the sweet potato and cut into large chunks.

Put water in a 3-quart saucepan, and bring to a boil over high heat. Add the mustard greens and sweet potato, and return to a boil. Cover, reduce heat to low, and simmer 3 hours. Serve piping hot.

Makes 4 servings of about 1½ cups per person.

Note: An ideal flu-fighting food, mustard greens contain substantial amounts of calcium, beta carotene, folate and Vitamin C. There are many varieties of mustard greens, but the two most popular varieties found at Chinese markets are "dai gai choy," big bunches with broad leaves and stems, and "gai choy sum," smaller bunches with skinnier stems.

From the Chinese perspective, dried figs are reputed to moisten the lungs, thereby helping to combat coughs. Young vouches for the remedial attributes of the following soup, which helped eradicate a persistent cough of her own.

Dried Fig, Apple and Almond Soup

Adapted from "The Wisdom of the Chinese Kitchen" (Simon & Schuster) by Grace Young

¼ cup peeled almond seeds (nom hung, see note)
4 or 5 peeled almond seeds (buck hung, see note)
10 Chinese dried figs (mo fa guo, see note), or regular dried or fresh figs3 medium Red Delicious apples, unpeeled
8 ounces pork loin, well trimmed
8 cups water

Rinse all the almond seeds in several changes of cold water, and soak them in ½ cup cold water overnight to soften.

Core the apples and cut into 1-inch-thick wedges.

Put water in a 4-quart saucepan, and bring to a boil over high heat. Add the pork and return to a boil, skimming any scum that rises to the

surface. Add the apple wedges, dried figs, and almonds with their soaking water. Return to a boil over high heat. Cover, reduce heat to medium-low, and simmer 3 hours. Serve piping hot.

Makes 6 servings, about 1½ cups per person.

Note: "Almond seeds" are actually not almonds at all, but apricot kernels. Nom hung almond seeds are larger and sweeter than the slightly bitter buck hung almond seeds, which in combination bring out the nom hung almonds' flavor. Both are available at Chinese groceries, as are the mo fa guo figs. Mo fa guo is the Chinese name for a variety of dried figs used in cooking; they are ivory colored and smaller than the figs generally eaten in the West.

Soybean Sprout Soup is a gentle broth that is easy to make, and easy on the palate, with just a hint of spicy heat, ideal when you have a cold or are recovering.

Chong-Namul Gook (Soybean Sprout Soup)

Adapted from "Dok Suni: Recipes from My Mother's Korean Kitchen" (St. Martin's Press) by Jenny Kwak with Liz Fried.

½ pound soybean sprouts, or bean sprouts
¾ cups cold water
1 tablespoon soy sauce
1½ teaspoons garlic, minced
½ teaspoon coarse sea salt or kosher salt½ small onion (about 2 ounces), minced
1 teaspoon Korean red pepper powder (goit-chu garu, see note)
1 bunch scallions (about 5 ounces), green part only, cut diagonally into 1-inch lengths1 teaspoon sesame oil
1 teaspoon ginger, minced
¼ beef stock (optional)

If using soybean sprouts, which have distinctly larger, greenish-yellow heads and a crunchier texture than bean sprouts, snip off the root end and remove any bean skin that might still be attached to the sprout.

Clean the sprouts, drain and place in a pot. Add the water, soy sauce, garlic, salt, onion and red pepper powder. Cook, covered, for 7 to 10 minutes over a medium flame.

Add scallions and return to a boil. Stir in sesame oil and ginger, simmering an additional 2-3 minutes. Serve hot.

Makes 3 or 4 servings.

Note: Goit-chu garu is available at Korean groceries, packaged in bulk in plastic bags of 3 pounds or more. Be careful to distinguish between Korean red chili pepper "flakes" and red chili "powder", and read ingredient listing carefully to avoid buying chili pepper "mixtures" with additives such as salt.

The following spicy soup packs a zesty citrus punch that is great for clearing sinus congestion. Its key ingredients — lemongrass, kaffir lime leaves and galangal — are indigenous flavorings to Thai cuisine and are also considered medicinal herbs.

Tom Yum Kung (Hot and Sour Prawn Soup)

Adapted from Bangkok Grand Palace restaurant, New York City

For the broth:
¾ to 4 cups water
8 ounces prawns or medium-sized jumbo shrimp, shelled and deveined2 garlic cloves, minced
1 shallot, thinly sliced
2 stalks lemongrass (see note)
5 kaffir lime leaves (bai ma-krut, see note)6 fresh or frozen galangal (kha, see note), peeled and thinly sliced
3 to 5 green Thai chili peppers (phrik khi nu, see note), about ½ to 1-inch long, to taste, or 2 to 3 sliced jalapeno or serrano peppers½ cup canned straw mushrooms (see note), halved lengthwise, rinsed and drained
¼ cup fresh Tiparos fish sauce (nam pla, see note)

½ teaspoon roasted Maesri roasted chili paste (nam phrik pao, see note)

¼ cup lime juice
½ teaspoon sugar (or slightly more to taste)Garnish:
Cilantro sprigs
Salt and pepper to taste

To prepare the stock, place prawn or shrimp heads and shells in a 3-quart pot. Add ¾ to 4 cups water and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low, and simmer covered, about 45 minutes to 1 hour. Strain stock, discarding shrimp heads and shells. You should have about 3 to 3½ cups of stock.

Cut the bottom tip off the lemongrass stalks and, from where the green part starts, discard the top and leaves as well. You should have

Please see SOUP, Page 6

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Beard Lives! And Claiborne returns

By Russ Parsons
LOS ANGELES TIMES

In the world of cookbooks, authors last only a little longer than yogurt. Although the latest hotshot seems almost guaranteed spots on television and the best-seller list, a lot of the folks who paved the way for the current cooking craze are as outdated as yesterday's sitcom stars.

There is no one more sadly overlooked today than Craig Claiborne, whose "The Best of Craig Claiborne," (Times Books, \$35) has just been published.

Imagine! It was only 15 years ago that Claiborne was the most powerful person in food. Food editor and restaurant critic of The New York Times, he helped bring to the public's attention everyone from Julia Child to Marcella Hazan and Di-

ana Kennedy. In addition, he wrote books — good books, many of them.

There are few cookbooks that have been more influential than his first "The New York Times Cookbook," published in 1961.

This new book is a collection of recipes from his journalism and from his previous books.

Meanwhile, James Beard — now almost 15 years dead — seems to be enjoying a second life as an author.

Only three years ago this giant of the cookbook world had only one or two titles still in print, but lately there has been a wholesale renaissance of his work.

Not only are all of his important books back in print, there are also books he never even imagined —

collections of his recipes gathered in things like "James Beard's Salads."

There is even a publishing competition over Beard.

You can choose between Thames & Hudson's "The James Beard Cookbook" series and Running Press' "James Beard Library of Great American Cooking."

The latter are by far the best of the reprints, because they stick closest to the original texts.

In fact, the only additions to "Theory and Practice of Good Cooking" (Running Press, \$22.95) and "Hors d'Oeuvres and Canapes" (Running Press, \$14.95) are new introductions by Barbara Kafka and Jeremiah Tower, both of whom were part of Beard's inner circle.

SOUP

FROM PAGE 5

about 6 or 7 inches of pale yellow-green stalk. Peel away the outer layers of the base until you see the pale pink ring of the heart inside. Lay the knife blade flat across the stalk. With one hand firmly gripping the handle, place the palm of your hand on top of the knife, and crush hard to bruise the stalk. This releases the lemony aromatic oils. Slice crosswise into thin rounds. Set aside.

Depending on desired level of hotness, use 3 to 5 chilies. Remove stem and bottom tip, and slice into

¼-inch rounds.

Put strained stock in a pot, and bring to a boil over medium heat. Add the garlic, shallots, kaffir lime leaves, galangal, lemongrass, chili peppers, straw mushrooms, fish sauce, chili paste and lime juice. Simmer covered for 2 or 3 minutes. Add the shrimp, and bring liquid to a boil. Cook until the shrimp are pink, opaque and firm, about 1 or 2 minutes. Stir in sugar. Garnish with cilantro sprigs and serve immediately.

Makes 4 servings

Note: Lemongrass, kaffir lime leaves, galangal, Thai chili peppers and chili paste are available at Asian markets. For the canned straw mushrooms, buy whole, peeled mushrooms, also available at Asian markets and some supermarkets' specialty foods sections.

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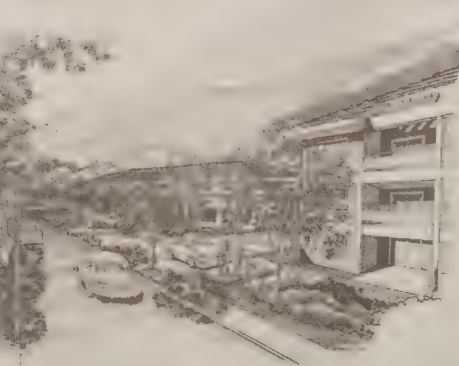
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TENNIS TABLE**

- EASY 12-BOLT ASSEMBLY
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- INCLUDES SIX DARTS

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FROM 7 1/2 TO 10 FT.

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GAME BASKETBALL**

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**'NBA' LEATHER
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SHORT BARREL SHOTGUN**

- SYNTHETIC STOCK
- WITH SECURITY LOCK

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MOSIN NAGANT
BOLT-ACTION RIFLE**

- 7.62 x 54R CALIBER
- ATTENTION COLLECTORS:

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- HANDLES 2 3/4" OR 3" SHELLS
- BEAUTIFUL WOOD & DEEPLY FINISHED METAL STOCK

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- INCLUDES PISTOL, CO. POWERLETS, PELLETS, PAPER TARGETS & MORE!

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RIFLE WITH SCOPE**

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- SINGLE SHOT

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3 1/2-LB. SLEEPING BAG**

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- 38 SUB-CHANNELS
- LCD DISPLAY
- GREAT FOR CAMPING, HIKING, EVEN SHOPPING
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- EVERY COMPONENT LOCKS
- ONE-HANDED OPENING

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**'AQUA GRANDE' BLADDER
PACK**

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- FOR BIKING, HIKING OR SKATING

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- 2400 CU. IN. CAPACITY

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- OVERSIZE HIGH-MODULUS GRAPHITE CONSTRUCTION
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- DURABLE LIGHTWEIGHT ALUMINUM

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- LIMIT 24 CANS PER CUSTOMER

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'1200' OVERSIZED GOLF SET

- 1, 3 & 5 WOODS, 3-9 IRONS, PLUS A PITCHING WEDGE

- ALLOY IRONS WITH PERIMETER WEIGHTING
- WOODS HAVE GRAPHITE SHAFTS

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- 8 1/2" IN DIAMETER
- MULTIPLE POCKETS

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2 Decline, Plus Flat & 3 Incline Positions

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WORKS OUT TO JUST 99¢ PER PAIR!

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'MAJESTIC 12' BUCKLE/LACE AGGRESSIVE

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In a Variety of Bright Colors, with Embroidered Body Glove Logo
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'INFERNO' SUNGLASSES
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• TOUGH, OPTICAL QUALITY POLYCARBONATE LENSES
• FEATHERWEIGHT NYLON OR METAL FRAMES
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Build Your Own Snowboard Package
For Only

229⁹⁹

Package Consists of Board, Boot & Binding

REGULAR PRICE
319⁹⁷ to 339⁹⁷

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'STRIKE' or 'ELITE'

DIRECTIONAL SNOWBOARD FOR CRUISING

- FULL WOOD CORE
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- STEEL EDGES
- SINTERED 2000 BASE

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ALL-MOUNTAIN SNOWBOARD

- TWIN TIP SHAPE w/ SET BACK STANCE
- 'COMBI' CORE CAP CONSTRUCTION

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'WAVE'

ALL-MOUNTAIN SNOWBOARD

- TWIN TIP SHAPE WITH A SET BACK STANCE
- 'COMBI' CORE CAP CONSTRUCTION

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Step 2 NEXT, CHOOSE YOUR BINDING

'LQ 1500'

- ANATOMICAL BASE PLATE
- FORWARD LEAN ADJUSTMENT
- PADDED TOE & ANKLE STRAP

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FREERIDE BINDING

- ADJUSTABLE HEEL CUP
- ROTATIONAL DISC
- FORWARD LEAN ADJUSTMENT

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Step 3 THEN, CHOOSE YOUR BOOT

'CRUISE'

FREESTYLE BOOTS

- THERMALITE[®] INSULATION
- FLAT LOOP LACING

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'REVEL'

FREESTYLE BOOTS

- INTEGRATED LINER
- LIGHTWEIGHT

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Includes Jackets & Pants!
Waterproof, Breathable or Seam Sealed!

PERCENTAGE-OFF DISCOUNTS APPLY TO REGULAR PRICES ONLY.

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'FUTUR/X600'

29⁹⁹

YOUR CHOICE

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19⁹⁹

YOUR CHOICE

RIO BRAVO

FLANNEL LINED VEST

- LIGHTLY INSULATED
- FOUR OUTER POCKETS
- ONE INTERNAL POCKET

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19⁹⁹

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MEN'S or WOMEN'S 'PENDER', 'SHELL' or SIDE-ZIP PANTS

WATER-RESISTANT COATED NYLON

Big 5 Low Price

39⁹⁹ **YOUR CHOICE**

SPORT ESSENTIALS YOUTH'S 'PENDER' PANTS
Big 5 Low Price **29.99**

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MEN'S COOLTECH[®] FLEECE VEST

- 100% POLYESTER
- BREATHABLE, LIGHTWEIGHT
- QUICK DRYING

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